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PROCEEDINGS

OF

THE GRAND CHAPTER

OF

Royal Arch Masons of Canada,

AT ITS

TENTH ANNUAL CONVOCATION,

HELD AT

OTTAWA, ONTARIO, ON THE SECOND TUESDAY,

THE 13TH DAY OF AUGUST, A. L., 5867, A. D., 1867.

Ordered to be read in all Chapters and preserved:

ADDRESS:

T. DOUGLAS HARINGTON, OTTAWA, ONTARIO, GRAND Z.
T. BIRD HARRIS, HAMILTON, ONTARIO, GRAND SCRIBE E.

HAMILTON:

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1867.

Grand Chapter of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS.

At the Tenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, held in the Masonic Hall, at the City of Ottawa, on Tuesday, the 13th day of August, A. L., 5867, A. D., 1867.

PRESENT:

M.E. Comp.	T. Douglas Harington,	Grand Z.	Grand Council.
R. " "	W. J. B. McLeod Moore,	as " H.	
" " "	A. A. Stevenson,	as " J.	

On the Throne.

R. E. Comp.	Thomas Bird Harris,	Grand Scribe E.	
" " "	Henry A. Sims,	" " N.	
V. " "	A. G. Smyth,	as " Prin'l Sojourner.	
R. " "	John W. Murton,	" Treasurer.	
" " "	William M. Jamieson,	" Registrar.	
V. " "	Augustus T. Houel,	as " 1st Ass't Sojourner.	
R. " "	Alex. S. Kirkpatrick,	as " 2nd " "	
" "	George EnEarl,	as " Sword Bearer.	
" "	Charles L. Beard,	as " Standard "	
" "	Henry Robertson,	as " Dir. of Ceremonies.	
V. " "	John P. Featherston,	" Organist.	
" " "	Stan. H. Blondheim,	" Pursuivant.	
"	John Sweetman,	" Janitor.	
V. " "	John S. Henderson,	as	Grand Stewards.
" "	Peter Begg,		
" "	M. J. May,		
" "	William Reid,		

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R. E. Comp.	David Curtis,	Wilson	District.
" " "	James Adams,	Toronto	"
" " "	L. H. Henderson,	Prince Edw.	"
" " "	Thomas Milton,	Montreal	"

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

R. E. Comp.	W. J. B. McLeod Moore,	P. G. H.
" " "	A. A. Stevenson,	P. G. H.
" " "	C. D. Macdonnell,	P. G. H.
" " "	James Seymour,	P. G. Sup't.
" " "	James Hill Rowan,	P. G. Sup't.
" " "	Isaac H. Stearns,	P. G. Scribe N.
" " "	Alex. S. Kirkpatrick,	P. G. Prin. Soj'r.
V. " "	A. G. Smyth,	P. G. 2nd Asst. Soj.
" " "	John S. Henderson,	P. G. Steward.
" " "	George EnEarl,	P. G. "

A constitutional number of Chapters being represented, the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada was opened in Ample form at 12.30 o'clock, P. M.

The Executive Committee, as required by the Constitution, having appointed Companions H. A. Sims, L. H. Henderson and A. G. Smyth, a Committee to examine the Credentials of Representatives of Chapters, announced the following as being present and entitled to take part in the proceedings of Grand Chapter, viz:

No. 1. ANCIENT FRONTENAC, KINGSTON.

R. E. Comp. Alex. S. Kirkpatrick, Z.
" " " C. D. Macdonnell, P. Z.

No. 2. THE HIRAM, HAMILTON.

R. E. Comp. Thomas B. Harris, P. Z.
V. " " John S. Henderson, P. Z.
" " William Reid, P. H.

No. 5. ST. GEORGE'S, LONDON.

V. E. Comp. A. G. Smyth, Z.

No. 6. ST. JOHN'S, HAMILTON.

R. E. Comp. John W. Murton, Z.
" " " Thomas B. Harris, P. Z.

No. 7. MOIRA, BELLEVILLE.

R. E. Comp. L. H. Henderson, P. Z.

No. 8. KING SOLOMON'S, TORONTO.

E. Comp. Aug. T. Houel, Z.
R. " " James Adams, P. Z.

No. 12. CATARAQUI, KINGSTON.

V. E. Comp. Stanislaus H. Blondheim, H.
R. " " C. D. Macdonnell, P. Z.

No. 13. STADACONA, QUEBEC.

E. Comp. M. J. May, (proxy.)

No. 15. WAWANOSH, SARNIA.

R. E. Comp. Wm. M. Jamieson, Z.

No. 16. CARLETON, OTTAWA.

V. E. Comp. J. P. Featherston, Z.
" " M. J. May, H.
M. " " T. Douglas Harington, Grand Z.
R. " " W. J. B. McLeod Moore, P. Z.
" " " H. A. Sims, P. Z.
" " " James H. Rowan, P. Z.
" " J. B. Taylor, P. Z.
" John Sweetman, Grand Janitor.

No. 18. OXFORD, WOODSTOCK.

E. Comp. Charles L. Beard, Z.

No. 19. MOUNT MORIAH, ST. CATHARINES.

R. E. Comp. James Seymour, P. Z.

No. 20. MOUNT HOREB, BRANTFORD.

R. E. Comp. David Curtis, P. Z.

No. 21. CARNARVON, MONTREAL.

R. E. Comp. A. A. Stevenson, Z.
" " " Isaac H. Stearns, H.

No. 22. GRENVILLE, PRESCOTT.

V. E. Comp. George EnEarl, H.
" " William Ellis, J.

No. 23. EZRA, SIMCOE.

R. E. Comp. David Curtis, (proxy.)

No. 24. TECUMSEH, STRATFORD.

E. Comp. Isaac F. Toms, (proxy.)

No. 25. MOUNT HOREB, MONTREAL.

R. E. Comp. Thomas Milton, Z.
" " George Nunn, P. Z.

No. 26. ST. MARK'S, TRENTON.

E. Comp. Peter Begg, H.
R. " " C. D. Macdonnell, P. Z.

No. 27. MANITOU, COLLINGWOOD.

E. Comp. Henry Robertson, P. Z.

U. D. PENTALPHA, OSHAWA.

R. E. Comp. James Adams, (proxy.)

U. D. M^cCALLUM, DUNNVILLE.

R. E. Comp. James Seymour, (proxy.)

U. D. HURON, GODERICH.

E. Comp. Isaac F. Toms, Z.

VISITING.

E. Comp. George Thompson, P. Z.
St. John's Chapter, No. 182, E. R., Quebec.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. James Seymour, seconded

by R. E. Comp. L. H. Henderson, and resolved—

That the report of the Committee on Credentials of Representatives be received and adopted.

The M. E. Z. granted leave for the admission of all Royal Arch Masons in good standing.

The Grand Scribe E. read the rules and regulations for the government of Grand Chapter during business.

The Grand Scribe E. having commenced reading the minutes of the last Annual Convocation,

It was moved by R. E. Comp. A. A. Stevenson, seconded by R. E. Comp. David Curtis, and resolved—

That the minutes of the proceedings of Grand Chapter at its ninth Annual Convocation, held at the Town of St. Catharines, on the 10th and 11th days of August, A. D., 1866, having been printed, and copies thereof having been forwarded to each Chapter, and also to the Grand Officers, the same be considered read and now confirmed.

The M. E. Z. delivered the following address to the Companions in Grand Chapters assembled:

ADDRESS.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Chapter
of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

GREETING:

COMPANIONS:

Once more it is my privilege and happiness to meet and address you in Grand Chapter,—to render to you a brief account of my Stewardship for the past twelve months,—to submit to your notice and consideration any occurrences of interest that may have transpired since our last brotherly greeting, appertaining to our antient and honorable Institution,—and to await, with your other officers, your fiat of approval or disapproval of the discharge of our duties and the fulfilment of the trust reposed in us.

Companions,—We have assembled together to celebrate our "*Tenth Annual Convocation*;" and if we only cast a retrospective glance over the years that have passed since our now well-found and goodly Edifice was commenced, and has gradually and successfully uprisen from *foundation* to *cope-stone*—taking its proper position and share in the work of Capitular Freemasonry as one of the pillars and supports of the General Grand Chapter of the World—I think I have good reason to congratulate you on the happy and prosperous results of that "flight of time," and call upon you to unite in reverently thanking the "*Great Giver of all Good*," for his protection, for the general prosperity of our Order, and for permitting us again to meet together in harmony and pleasant companionship, and as participators still of His varied blessings of life—light and health.

It is with sincere pleasure that I am able to state that peace and harmony prevail within our borders, and, as I could declare last year, so now I can repeat, my work has been easy, a labor of love and conducive to much personal pleasure.

I have signed Dispensations in favor of the following new Chapters, viz:

PENTALPHA, ... *Oshawa.*
McCALLUM, ... *Dunnville.*
HURON, ... *Goderich.*

They have been properly organized, and, as the several petitions came before me duly recommended, I advise their confirmation by Warrant.

All other Dispensations granted by me have been simply those necessary, in my opinion, for the welfare and good-working of the Chapter making application, and the election of certain principal officers, worthily, though not constitutionally qualified, without my dispensing power.

I am happy to say that one of our oldest subordinate Chapters, "*St. Andrew's*," of Toronto, which had been in abeyance for some time, has become again alive, under the able superintendence of our R. E. Companion S. B. Harman, on whom I conferred all the necessary authority to put that Chapter into full working order, and restore its prestige and good old standing.

We have now on our Register, *twenty-seven subordinate Chapters*, and as regards their internal economy and position, I refer you to the annual reports of the several Grand Superintendents of Districts, as well as the general development and progress of Royal Arch Masonry in the Districts themselves. The books of your able and energetic Grand Scribe E., R. E. Companion Harris, will afford you other valuable statistical information; and the reports of that excellent officer and your Grand Treasurer will furnish full knowledge of all matters relating to your financial affairs.

I have had the *By-Laws* of several Chapters submitted for approval, all of which have been read and examined carefully, and, where necessary, they have been altered, so as not to conflict with the Book of Constitution.

While on this subject I would mention to Grand Chapter, that application was made to me for a dispensation to exalt *Military* and *Naval Brethren*, who are often only temporary sojourners with us, for a less Fee than the one established by Law. I did not, I conceive, possess any such power, but I promised to call your attention to the matter, because I think the Law falls somewhat hard upon those Brethren, and especially upon that respectable body of men, the non-commissioned officers in the Service of our Most Gracious Queen, and you might consistently amend the clause in the Book of Constitution, by reducing the Exaltation Fee, as far as regards the two Services.

The next subject I deem of importance to submit to your notice, is our "*Work*." I gave this matter a prominent place in my address last year, and the necessity of its exemplification, for the purpose of ensuring uniformity, was endorsed by Grand Chapter. I again invite your attention to it, and would also suggest that the *Ceremony* of *Consecration* and *Constitution* of Chapters, and *Installation* of *Officers* should be determined.—Probably the most simple way of accomplishing this desirable object would be to appoint a Committee to report and exemplify at our next Convocation.

The Proceedings of several *Sister Grand Chapters* have been received, and the Grand Scribe E., by my direction, placed them

in the hands of R. E. Companion Seymour, as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, who I hope will be able to present his usually able Report thereon, to be published with our own Proceedings. The Grand Chapter of Canada is mentioned by these Grand Bodies in very kind and friendly language.

I have received an application for recognition and companionship from a new Body, styling itself "*The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the District of Columbia,*"—but as its legality has been challenged by the "*General Grand Chapter of the United States,*" and there is evidently a domestic difference, in which it would undoubtedly be improper for us to take any part, I have taken no steps in the matter.—The papers will be laid before you by the Grand Scribe E. I have also received a printed Circular, under the Great Seal of the "*Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana,*" warning all regular Masonic authorities that a Body styling itself "*Supreme C.* 33° *for the Independent State of Louisiana.*" and claiming therein certain Special Jurisdiction, is an irregular, clandestine Body and quite unrecognised. I merely record this for general information, as Grand Chapter has no knowledge whatever of this "*Thirty-third Degree.*"

I conceive it to be my bounden duty to invite your attention to the account of the distress prevailing in the *Southern States* of the neighbouring Republic, and, as it has been recently well put by the Most Worshipful "*The Grand Master of Canada,*" "the startling account of the misery and want suffered by the 'widows and orphans of Masons in the State of Georgia." Adopting his excellent example, I commend this subject to your benevolent consideration.—Grand Chapter is not rich, but small separate subscriptions make large aggregates, and sympathy goes a great way with sufferers.—And remember, Companions, that "ONE," who in his own person embodied every good attribute of our order, especially held up for our approval and imitation the gift of the "*Widow's Mite,*" accompanied as it was by a sympathetic and charitable heart.

I now return to our own "*home,*" as I may rightly style our Grand Chapter. Last year I alluded to the near accomplishment of the *Confederation of the British American Provinces* on this

Continent.—Now, as you all know, the "DOMINION OF CANADA" is an accomplished fact, and it forms a most important integral portion of the mighty Empire that renders willing and heartfelt allegiance to our Most Beloved Queen,—who may God preserve!

It behoves us to consider the effect of this Confederation on our present position as a Grand Chapter. My own opinion is that the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, now incorporated with Canada, and being hitherto "*Unoccupied Territory*,"—that is, possessing no Grand Chapter of their own,—rightly fall under the rule and supremacy of this Grand Chapter; and as your Presiding Officer, I deem it my duty to claim Royal Arch Masonic Sovereignty there in your behalf; and I think formal notice of this should be sent, with your sanction, to the *Parent Bodies* of those Subordinate Chapters now in existence in those Provinces, warning them against granting any new Charters or Warrants, and inviting those Chapters to receive "*Canada*" Warrants, at or before a certain fixed time,—their numbers and precedence to be determined by seniority of original date,—and calling upon them to appear, by their Representatives, at our next Annual Convocation, if not at some previous Special Convocation to be decided upon by you. The appointment of a Special Committee, with power to enter into all necessary preliminaries, and report fully to Grand Chapter, is probably the most advisable course to adopt. In this I only offer my individual opinion, and by no means desire even to seem to dictate to Grand Chapter. The subject is one of paramount importance, and calls for cool and deliberate consideration. As soon as all initiatory arrangements are perfected, you will have, of necessity, to determine upon a permanent conveniently situated place of meeting, which however, should for obvious reasons be located in some central City, and where the "*Grand Lodge of Canada*" establishes her dwelling place.

Another matter crosses my mind as being fit and proper to be brought before you. I allude to "*Unaffilliated Companions*," whose status should be clearly defined. They should surely be compelled to contribute to our Charities, and their names might then appear in the Register of the Grand Scribe E., being

included, under a distinct heading, in the annual returns from Chapters, within whose jurisdiction they may be residing.

I would likewise mention that I have official knowledge, that a *Committee* of the "*Grand Lodge of Canada,*" under the auspices of our R. E. Companion S. D. Fowler, of Kingston, has been for some time engaged in collecting documents, with a view to compiling a *History of Canadian Freemasonry.* This Committee has already published some interesting and valuable information in a very creditable Masonic Periodical called "*The Craftsman,*" and which I hope will receive good and successful support. I ask all Companions if they have in their possession any old or valuable archives or Masonic documents, to assist that "*Historical Committee*" by giving or lending the same. It is a matter fraught with interest to us all.

Finally, my Companions, I beg thus publicly to record my thanks to all Officers for their services during their term of office now expiring. And I suggest to us all to resolve during the times of excitement that must naturally be looked for, to avoid if possible, and as much as poor human nature will allow, anger and malice; to bear in mind that other people have equal right with ourselves to feelings and opinions; to practice the "*Charity*" of tongue that "*thinketh no evil and never faileth;*" and let us *fear God, honour the Queen,* and those who are put in authority under her, and *love the brotherhood!* And may the "*Great Architect of the Universe*" spare us happy and happily to meet again, and continue His blessing to us and our common country! SO MOTE IT BE!

T. DOUGLAS HARINGTON,
Grand Z.

OTTAWA, August 1867.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. A. A. Stevenson, seconded by R. E. Comp. L. H. Henderson, and resolved—

That the address of M. E. Z. be referred to the Executive Committee, to report thereon at the earliest possible hour.

The Grand Scribe E. read letters of excuse for unavoidable absence, from R. E. Comp. Thomas McCraken, Grand J., and R. E. Comp. John S. Bowen, Grand Prin. Soj'r.

The following reports of the Grand Superintendents of Districts were read, viz:

LONDON DISTRICT.

To the M. E. the Grand Council, Officers and Members of the Grand Chapter, in Annual Convocation assembled:

Agreeably to the requirements of the Constitution of this Grand Chapter, I again present my Annual Report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the London District.

It is a source of great pleasure to me to be able to report that the Royal Art is in a very flourishing condition throughout the District.

The duties appertaining to the office of Grand Superintendent have not been very onerous in my District, owing to the harmony and good feeling which prevails in the several Chapters, as well as their limited number.

On the 25th of Feb., with the assistance of R. E. Comp. T. B. Harris, G. S. E. and V. E. Comp. John Clark, Z. of Ezra Chapter, No. 23, Simcoe, I installed the officers of Tecumseh Chapter, No. 24, Stratford, and on the 19th of June, I installed the officers of Wawanosh Chapter, No. 15, Sarnia.

I had made an appointment to visit St. George's Chapter, No. 5, London, on the 28th June; but as I was that week engaged in the discharge of the duties of my office as D. D. G. M. for the Huron District, I was detained longer than I expected, and consequently was prevented from keeping the appointment I had made with the Companions in London.

On the 7th of August, assisted by V. E. Comp, Thos. Winter, Z. of Tecumseh Chapter, No. 24, Stratford, and E. Comp. John Harris, P. Z. of Hiram Chapter, No. 2, I installed the officers of Huron Chapter—a new Chapter opened U. D. in the Town of Goderich.

I think that it would be for the welfare of the Grand Chapter if the Annual Convocation could be held at the same time and place as Grand Lodge, inasmuch as it is a great tax, both in respect of money and time, to leave home twice within such a short space of time, particularly when the distance is so great, as it happens to be this year.

The business of Grand Chapter is but limited, and is usually transacted in a few hours, and no loss or injury could, in my opinion, result from the time of meeting being changed; and I have no doubt that by such alteration a much larger attendance would be secured.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

CHAS. KAHN,
Grand Supt., London District.

STRATFORD, August 10th, 1867.

WILSON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent Council, Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

In reporting upon the state of Royal Arch Masonry in the Wilson District, I have to congratulate Grand Chapter on the general prosperity and harmony prevailing therein.

There being but *three* Chapters in this District, my duties as Grand Superintendent are necessarily very light, and the work of the Chapters has, through the large experience and superior intelligence of the Companions presiding), been so well conducted that nothing was required of the Superintendent beyond an occasional friendly visit by way of recognition and encouragement.

The "Oxford" Chapter, at Woodstock, presided over by E. Comp. C. L. Beard, is progressing very satisfactorily under his mild sway; seven members have been exalted in this Chapter during the past year.

The "Mount Horeb" Chapter, at Brantford, presided over by V. E. Comp. J. W. Lethbridge is gradually increasing its membership, giving more attention to the quality than to the quantity of the material carried up.

The "Ezra" Chapter, at Simcoe, presided over by V. E. Comp. J. Clarke, has under the superior management of its popular chief attained a high degree of prosperity. Thirteen Companions have been exalted in this Chapter during the Masonic year now closing.

The books of the Chapters respectively, I am happy to say, have been properly kept and the returns to Grand Chapter regularly made.

Respectfully submitted,

D. CURTIS,
G. Supt., W. D.

HAMILTON DISTRICT.

To the M. E. Grand Council, Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

M. E. SIR AND COMPANIONS:—In compliance with the requirements of the Constitution, I have the honor of submitting my report on the state of Royal Arch Masonry in this District for the past year.

I have visited The Hiram and St. John's Chapters in Hamilton, and feel pleased to report that both are in a healthy and prosperous condition, and ably presided over.

Owing to ill health, I have not visited the Chapters at a distance, but am well assured that Mount Moriah Chapter, at St. Catherines, steadily maintains its former good character, and continues to add to its numbers only such material "as we are authorized to receive." I learn from R. E. Comp. Seymour, that he and two past 1st Principals from St. Catherines did, on the 1st day of March last, install the following officers in the McCallum Chapter, at Dunnville, under the authority of a dispensation granted by the M. E. G. Z., viz:—

Comp. Lachlan McCallum, Z.; Comp. Arr Brownson, H.; Comp. Jabez Amsden, J.; Comp. J. T. Farrell, Scribe E.: Comp. John Parry, Scribe N.; Comp. Joseph Hurssell, P. Soj.; Comp. J. Nicholson, Treas.; Comps. M. C. Upper and J. Gibson, Asst. Sojs.; Comp. H. Root, Janitor.

Immediately after the installation, five candidates received the Mark, Past Master's and M. E. Master's Degrees; and at the ensuing regular convocation held on the 19th April, the Holy R. A. Degree was conferred upon them. I am glad to learn that the outfit of this Chapter is good, and that the true spirit actuates the Companions in their laudable endeavours to make it creditable to themselves and worthy of emanating from the Grand Chapter of Canada. But they will need careful supervision until thoroughly in working order. I would suggest that a warrant of confirmation be granted this Chapter.

All which is respectfully submitted.

THOS. DUGGAN,
Grand Supt., H. D.

TORONTO DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Council, Officers and Companions, of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Canada:

It becomes my duty at this time, in compliance with constitutional requirements, to transmit an annual Report of the state of capitular Masonry in the Toronto District, and in so doing it is with pleasure that I am enabled to state that at no time in my recollection has it been in a more promising and prosperous condition than at present.

There are now three Chapters in the District, in full work, acknowledging your supreme authority, viz:—

King Solomon's,	No. 8, Toronto.
Manitou,	" 27, Collingwood,
Pentalpha,	U. D., Oshawa.

At the annual meeting last January, I officially visited King Solomon's Chapter, No. 8, and installed their three principals, as follows, V. E. Comp. A. T. Houel, *Z.*, E. Comp. J. Curgenven, *H.*, and E. Comp. A. T. Lamb, *J.*, together with the other officers. The V. E. Z. informs me that since their annual Report to Grand Chapter, they have added to their numbers five by exaltation and two by affiliation, and two have demitted, being an increase of five, and that their prospects are of the very best.

On March 4th, I officially visited Manitou Chapter at Collingwood, and installed their officers, the three principal are E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, Z., E. Comp. John Nettleton, H., and E. Comp. John Harvie, J., also, E. Comp. Henry Robertson, past *Z.* Although but little over a year since this chapter was instituted, it now numbers thirty-eight members, and I am informed by members thereof that they are in a most prosperous condition—financially and otherwise.

Last October an application was made by nine R. A. Masons for a dispensation to organize a Chapter at Oshawa, which dispensation being granted by the M. E. Grand Z., I proceeded there on the 7th November, accompanied by R. E. Comp. S. B. Campbell, V. E. Comp. A. T. Houel, E. Comp. A. DeGrassi, (of St. John's Chapter, G. R. S.) and a number of other companions, and instituted Pentalpha Chapter, and then installed the following officers, viz; E. Comp. Wm. McCabe, Z.; E. Comp. Geo. H. Dartnell, H.; E. Comp. Bradford Patterson, J.; Comp. W. H. Billings, Scribe E.; Comp. H. S. Northrup, S. N.; Comp. Francis Keller, P. S.; Comp. J. H. Greenwood, S. S.; Comp. M. Gilbranson, J. S.; Comp. R. Brodie, Janitor. Since then the chapter has progressed in a manner that bids fair to make it rank among the best in the jurisdiction. It now numbers twenty members, all zealous in the cause. It meets on the first Friday of each month.

There is still another chapter under my superintendency to whose unfortunate position, I in my last annual report called your attention, I refer to St. Andrew's Chapter, No. 4, from whom no returns have been received for about four years, (1863,) and which, so far as I can ascertain, has held no meeting from that time until some five weeks since, when a notice calling the members together was issued by Comp. James Bain, Scribe N.; a second meeting was called for last week, for the purpose of electing officers, but there was no quorum present, so far as I am informed; under all the circumstances of the case I deem it highly necessary that Grand Chapter should take some definite action in the premises, as the state of abeyance in which that chapter now is, is highly injurious to the cause of Royal Arch

Masonry in the District, and more especially to the chapter located in the city of Toronto.

The utmost harmony and friendly feeling continue to characterize the chapters of the District, and every thing seems to promise a long career of usefulness and prosperity.

Most fervently do we all return thanks to the Most High for having kept us during so long a period free from sickness and from death.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JAMES ADAMS.
Grand Supt. T. D.

TORONTO, 5th August, 1867.

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Council, Officers and Members of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, in Annual Convocation Assembled:

This being the close of the year by which my duties as Grand Superintendent of Prince Edward District ceases, it becomes my duty to report upon the condition of Royal Arch Masonry under my superintendence.

There are but two chapters in the District over which I have the honor to preside, namely, Moira, No. 7, held in Belleville, and St. Marks, No. 26, held at Trenton, both of which are in a most prosperous condition.

I am happy to say that during the year nothing has transpired which has called for my interference, or in any way marred the harmony and good feeling existing among the companions of these chapters, and I have therefore to congratulate myself upon the easy task I have had to perform.

I have to thank the companions of these two chapters for many and uniform acts of kindness extended to me during the year.

All which is respectfully submitted,

L. H. HENDERSON,
G. S., P. E. D.

MONTREAL DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Council and Companions of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Canada:

Agreeably with the constitutional requirements of Grand Chapter, I have the pleasure of submitting my report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in Montreal.

Nothing of special moment having transpired in this District during the past year, my report must necessarily be brief. The two chapters, which are the Carnarvon, No. 21, and the Mount Horeb, No. 25, (both located in this city), continue to meet regularly and work creditably, labouring with that commendable zeal which should always be the distinguishing characteristic of our Order, and faithfully discharging the duties incumbent upon them. The greatest peace and harmony prevails among the members of each chapter, no complaints have been heard, no discontent exists, and the love of a Mason, pure both in principle and practice, appears to dwell in the breast of every one.

The Mount Horeb Chapter has removed to its new Hall in Notre Dame Street, which has been leased for a term of ten years; it has been erected and furnished under the superintendence of the first Principal of the chapter, and is admirably adapted to the purpose of Royal Arch Masonry.

The whole most respectfully submitted.

THOS. MILTON.
Grand Supt., M. D.

MONTREAL, 1st August, 1867.

EASTERN TOWNSHIP'S DISTRICT,

To the Most Excellent Grand Council, Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada:

As required by the Grand Chapter, I beg to submit a brief report of Royal Arch Masonry in this District.

The number of Chapters is still nominally three.

In March last, accompanied by E. Comp. W. A. Taylor, past Z. of Dorchester Chapter, I visited Golden Rule Chapter, Stanstead; installed its officers and inspected its work, which is in accordance with the Ritual practised in the United States. This Chapter continues to prosper steadily.

Previous to my visit its regular Convocations were only held quarterly; but a dispensation was then asked for to hold them monthly, which I recommended, and which has since been granted by the Most Excellent Grand Z., and I have no doubt the change will materially benefit the Chapter.

During the year 1866, Dorchester Chapter, Waterloo, added none to its numbers, but several candidates have since been exalted, and other applications are now before it.

It is now upwards of five years since a Convocation of Bedford District Chapter was held, and I see no reason why it should not be struck off the list.

It is with deep regret that I report the death of my brother, Jonathan Robinson, which occurred 26th Oct., 1866, at Waterloo.

He was for many years an active member of Dorchester Chapter, and one of the first exalted in it.

The whole respectfully submitted.

H. L. ROBINSON,
Grand Supt., Eastern Townships District.

WATERLOO, Quebec, 27th July, 1867.

QUEBEC DISTRICT.

To the M. E. the Grand Council, Officers and Companions of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Canada:

In accordance with the constitutional requirement of Grand Chapter, I have the honor to submit the following brief report of Royal Arch Masonry in the District of Quebec.

I have much pleasure in reporting the continued prosperity of "Stadacona" Chapter, No. 13, it being the only chapter in this District under the G. C. of Canada, its members are increasing

rapidly, and under the present Principals and Officers, has attained to a higher state of perfection than at any other period since I have had the honour to be a member.

THOS. LAMBERT.
Grand Supt., Q. D.

QUEBEC, 30th July, 1867.

CENTRAL DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Council, Officers and Members of the Grand Chapter of Canada, in Annual Convocation Assembled:

In compliance with the requirements of the constitution, I have the honor to submit to Grand Chapter a report on the state of Royal Arch Masonry in the Central District, for the past year.

The number of Chapters in this District are four; two situated in Kingston, viz: The Antient Frontenac and the Cataraqui, and I have much pleasure in bearing testimony to their harmony, prosperity and careful working.

I regret that circumstances have prevented my visiting the Carleton Chapter of Ottawa and the Grenville Chapter of Prescott, but from information I have received concerning them, am enabled to report both as working well and prosperously.

It affords me much gratification to be enabled to speak favorably of the prosperity and progress of Royal Arch Masonry in this District, and I trust the companions will continue so to order themselves as to secure the prosperity of Capitular Masonry within its limits, and prove themselves, as heretofore worthy of the honor and privileges they enjoy as Royal Arch Masons.

All which is most respectfully submitted.

E. H. PARKER,
Grand Supt., Central Dist.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. A. A. Stevenson, seconded by R. E. Comp. W. J. B. McLeod Moore, and resolved—

That the reports of the Grand Superintendents just read

be received and referred to the Executive Committee to report thereon.

The following Annual Statements of the G. S. E. and Grand Treasurer, for the past year, were read, and upon motion were received and referred to the Executive Committee, together with the Books, Vouchers, &c., &c.

GRAND TREASURER'S STATEMENT.

HAMILTON, August 1st, 1867.

To the M. E. Z., Grand Officers and Members of Grand Chapter:

Your Treasurer begs respectfully to present a short annual report of his receipts and disbursements for the year now ending:

Dr.

August 1—To balance on hand		$381 98
1867.		
April 12— " Cash received from Grand Scribe E		563 25
Aug. 3— " " " " "		322 75
" 8— " " " " "		79 65
" " " " "		12 50
" " " " "		29 00
		$1389 13

Cr.

1866.			
Sept. 1—By paid per order Grand Z	$341 11		
1867.			
Apl. 12— " " " "	49 00		
" — " " " "	70 00		
" — " " " "	44 50		
" — " " " "	99 75		
			$604 36
Aug. 8—Balance on hand			$784 77

All which is respectfully and fraternally submitted,

JOHN W. MURTON,
Grand Treasurer.

ANNUAL STATEMENT.

Dr. THOMAS B. HARRIS, G. S. E., *in Account with Grand Chapter for the financial year ending 1st August*, 1867. *Cr.*

1867.	$ c.
No. 1—Ancient Frontenac	1 20
" 2—The Hiram	31 60
" 4—St. Andrew's	
" 5—St. George's	31 50
" 6—St. John's	78 80
" 7—Moira	12 50
" 8—King Solomon's	120 00
" 9—Golden Rule	1 00
" 12—Cataraqui	8 50
" 13—Stadacona	95 20
" 14—Bedford District	
" 15—Wawanosh	36 20
" 16—Carleton	75 40
" 17—Dorchester	10 85
" 18—Oxford	25 80
" 19—Mount Moriah	85 60
" 20—Mount Horeb	4 00
" 21—Carnarvon	
" 22—Grenville	52 00
" 23—Ezra	12 40
" 24—Tecumseh	60 60
" 25—Mount Horeb	65 80
" 26—St. Mark's	10 00
" 27—Manitou	68 00
Pentalpha	40 00
McCallum	40 00
Huron	40 00
Cash, Constitution	20
	$1007 15

1866.	$ c.
August 30—By Grand Treasurer	49 00
Dec. 20— " " "	70 00
" 24— " " "	44 50
1867.	
April 10— " " "	99 75
" 11— " " "	300 00
July 31— " " "	322 75
August 1— " " "	79 65
" " " Notes	41 50
	$1007 15

NOTE.—The following Chapters made returns and paid fees during the Annual Convocation, viz:—Carnarvon, No. 21, Grenville, No. 22, Ezra, No. 23, St. Mark's, No. 26.

BALANCES IN LEDGER, AUGUST, 1867.

No.	NAME.	PLACE.	LAST RETURN.		1866	1867	Dr.		Cr.	
							$	cts.	$	cts.
1	Ancient Frontenac	Kingston	31st January.	..	1866	..	00	00		
2	The Hiram	Hamilton	" "	..	..	1867	6	00		
4	St. Andrew's	Toronto	" "	1863	..	..	23	40		
5	St. George's	London	" "	..	..	1867	00	00		
6	St. John's	Hamilton	" "	..	..	1867	00	00		
7	Moira	Belleville	" "	1864	..	..	00	00		
8	King Solomon's	Toronto	" "	..	..	1867	00	00		
9	Golden Rule	Stanstead	" "	1865	..	..	22	60		
12	Cataraqui	Kingston	" "	..	..	1867	00	00		
13	Stadacona	Quebec	" "	..	..	1867	4	00		
14	Bedford District	Dunham	Formation.	1859	..	..	10	75		
15	Wawanosh	Sarnia	31st January.	..	..	1867	00	00		
16	Carleton	Ottawa	" "	..	..	1867	00	00		
17	Dorchester	Waterloo	" "	..	..	1867	00	00		
18	Oxford	Woodstock	" "	..	..	1867	00	00		
19	Mount Moriah	St. Catharines	" "	..	..	1867	5	00		
20	Mount Horeb	Brantford	" "	..	..	1867	13	80		
21	Carnarvon	Montreal	30th June.	1865	..	..	2	00		
22	Grenville	Prescott	19th June.	1865	..	..	00	00	1	00
23	Ezra	Simcoe	31st July.	..	..	1867	35	73		
24	Tecumseh	Stratford	31st January.	..	..	1867	00	00		
25	Mount Horeb	Montreal	" "	..	..	1867	00	00	10	00
26	St. Mark's	Trenton	" "	..	1866	..	00	00		
27	Manitou	Collingwood	" "	..	..	1867	15	00		
	Pentalpha	Oshawa				1867	00	00		
	McCallum	Dunnville				1867	00	00		
	Huron	Goderich				1867	00	00		
							$134	28	$11	00

TABULAR STATEMENT extracted from the Returns of Chapters for the Year 1867.

Number.	NAME OF CHAPTER.	PLACE.	Number of Registrations.	Number of Joinings.	Withdrawals.	Suspensions.	Deaths.	Number of Members.	Amount of Fees. $	c.
1	Ancient Frontenac	Kingston	2	..	3	..	..	47	1	20
2	The Hiram	Hamilton	4	..	1	..	1	58	31	60
*4	St. Andrew's	Toronto	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5	St. George's	London	8	3	1	..	1	41	31	50
6	St. John's	Hamilton	18	..	..	..	1	80	78	80
7	Moira	Belleville	9	..	..	..	1	74	12	50
8	King Solomon's	Toronto	9	2	4	..	..	53	120	00
10	Golden Rule	Stanstead	..	..	..	..	..	37	1	00
12	Cataraqui	Kingston	1	..	2	..	1	22	8	50
13	Stadacona	Quebec	9	1	6	1	1	79	95	20
*14	Bedford District	Dunham	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15	Wawanosh	Sarnia	12	..	..	..	1	25	36	20
16	Carleton	Ottawa	18	8	3	..	..	56	75	40
17	Dorchester	Waterloo	..	..	3	..	1	38	10	85
18	Oxford	Woodstock	5	..	..	1	2	39	25	80
19	Mount Moriah	St. Catharines	6	..	1	..	1	70	85	60
20	Mount Horeb	Brantford	3	..	..	..	..	24	4	00
21	Carnarvon	Montreal	6	3	9	..	1	39	..	..
†22	Grenville	Prescott	..	..	..	..	..	20	52	00
23	Ezra	Simcoe	6	..	2	..	..	23	12	40
24	Tecumseh	Stratford	19	..	9	1	..	53	60	60
25	Mount Horeb	Montreal	15	3	10	1	..	34	65	80
26	St. Mark's	Trenton	5	..	..	..	..	20	10	00
27	Manitou	Collingwood	17	..	..	..	..	26	68	00
28	Pentalpha	Oshawa						11	40	00
29	McCallum	Dunnville						10	40	00
30	Huron	Goderich						12	40	00

*Not working. †Made no returns for 1867.

RECAPITULATION.

Number of Chapters on the Roll 27
" " represented in Grand Chapter 23
" Registrations reported 172
" Joinings " 20
" Withdrawals " 54
" Suspensions " 4
" Deaths " 12
" Members on the Roll 944

Receipts for the year ..... $1007.15.

Paid in during the Session of Grand Chapter by the following Chapters, viz:
Carnarvon, No. 21, Grenville, No. 22, Ezra, No. 23, and St. Mark's, No. 26 ..... $92.63.

Notice of motion by V. E. Comp. A. G. Smyth,—That the next Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter be held at Toronto.

Notice of motion by E. Comp. Peter Begg,—That the next Annual Convocation be held at Belleville.

The Grand Scribe E. read a circular letter from R E. Comp. E. Thayer, G. Sec. of the Grand Chapter of South Carolina, having reference to the resumption of reciprocal greetings with sister Grand Chapters, interrupted for a period of four years by domestic troubles, which was received, and ordered to be noted in the minutes.

R. E. Comp. James Seymour, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, submitted a report.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Thos. B. Harris, seconded by R. E. Comp. David Curtis, and unanimously resolved—

That the report on Foreign Correspondence just read be received, and that the same be printed with the proceedings of Grand Chapter; and further, that the thanks of Grand Chapter are due, and the same be now tendered to the R. E. Comp. James Seymour, Chairman of said Committee, for the very satisfactory manner in which the same has been prepared.

The Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment, to meet at 6 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Chapter resumed its sittings at 7.30 o'clock, P. M.

PRESENT.

M.E. Comp.	T. Douglas Harington,	Grand Z.	Grand Council.
R. " "	W. J. B. McLeod Moore,	as " H.	
" " "	A. A. Stevenson,	as " J.	

On the Throne.

Officers, Members and Representatives.

The election of Officers for the ensuing year was proceeded with, and the following Companions were declared duly elected:

M. E. Comp.	T. Douglas Harington, re-elected	Grand Z.
R. " "	David Curtis,	" H.
" " "	James Seymour,	" J.
" " "	Thos. Bird Harris, re-elected	Grand Scribe E.
" " "	A. G. Smyth,	" " N.
" " "	Aug. T. Houel,	" Prin. Soj'r.
" " "	Isaac H. Stearns,	" Treasurer.
" " "	John S. Bowen,	" Registrar.
By an open vote of Grand Chapter,		
	Comp. Thomas Holywell,	" Janitor.

Nominated by the Chapters of the respective Districts, and approved by the M. E. Z. as Grand Superintendents.

R. E. Comp.	Charles Kahn,	London District.
" " "	Charles L. Beard,	Wilson "
" " "	John W. Murton,	Hamilton "
" " "	James Adams,	Toronto "
" " "	H. W. DeLany,	P. Edward "
" " "	Alex. S. Kirkpatrick,	Central "
" " "	Thomas Milton,	Montreal "
" " "	H. L. Robinson,	E. Townships "
" " "	Thomas Lambert,	Quebec "

The M. E. Z. subsequently was pleased to make the following appointments, viz:

V. E. Comp.	Henry Robertson,	Grand	1st Asst. Sojourner.
" " "	Rev. Charles Forest,	"	2nd " "
" " "	William Reid,	"	Sword Bearer.
" " "	Henry J. Pratten,	"	Standard Bearer.
" " "	M. J. May,	"	Dir. of Ceremonies.
" " "	George EnEarl,	"	Organist.
" " "	Stan. H. Blondheim,	"	Pursuivant.
" " "	Peter Begg,		Grand Stewards.
" " "	Samuel G. Dolson,		
" " "	William Johnson,		
" " "	William Ellis,		

The following Companions were elected by Grand Chapter as members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year, viz:

R. E. Comps. C. D. Macdonnell, L. H. Henderson, H. A. Sims, and V. E. Comps. Henry Robertson and J. P. Featherston.

R. E. Comp. A. A. Stevenson gave notice that at the next Annual Convocation, he would move to amend the Constitution, so that the Grand Chapter shall hold its Annual Convocation on the Monday preceding the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge in July.

The Executive Committee submitted the following report:

ON AUDIT AND FINANCE.

To the Most Excellent Council:

The Executive Committee have examined the books and vouchers of the Grand Scribe E. and the Grand Treasurer, and found the same correct.

The Committee have examined the following accounts, and recommend them for payment:

John Ellis, for parchments and printing certificates	$ 60 00
W. C. Chewett & Co., engraving warrants, printing, &c.	65 00
Grand Scribe E. incidental expenses	26 83
Grand Scribe E. salary to August, 1867, for one year.	300 00
Grand Scribe E., on acct. arrears	200 00
	$651 83

From the accounts of Grand Treasurer, it appears that there was on hand, Aug., 1866, a balance of		$ 381 98
Receipts since, as per statement		1007 15
		$1389 13
Accounts passed at last convocation and since paid.	$504 61	
Printing minutes of last meeting	99 75	
		604 30
This shows a balance in the hands of Treasurer of		784 77
From which deduct the accounts recommended to be paid		651 83
Leaving a balance of		$132 94

The Committee recommend that the account for printing the Proceedings of this Annual Convocation be paid so soon as the work is done; and that the balance of $550 due the Grand Scribe E. be reduced by payments as soon as the funds will admit.

All which is respectfully submitted.

HENRY A. SIMS,
Chairman Ex. Com. pro. tem.

OTTAWA, 13th August, 1867.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. L. H. Henderson, seconded by R. E. Comp. James Seymour, and resolved—

That the report on Audit and Finance be received and adopted.

REPORT ON WARRANTS.

The Executive Committee begs leave to report that it has had under consideration petitions for the establishment of three new Chapters during the past year, to wit:

The Pentalpha Chapter, at Oshawa.
The McCallum Chapter, at Dunnville.
The Huron Chapter, at Goderich.

Dispensations for the same have been granted by the M. E. the Grand Z. and the said Chapters appear from the District Reports to be in a creditable state of efficiency.

Your Committee therefore begs to recommend that Warrants be granted to the said Chapters, so soon as they exhibit their minute books to the Grand Scribe E., and show them to be kept as the requirements of the Craft demand.

All which is respectfully submitted.

HENRY A. SIMS,
Chairman Ex. Com., pro tem.

OTTAWA, 13th August, 1867.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. L. H. Henderson, seconded by R. E. Comp. C. D. Macdonnell, and resolved—

That the foregoing report be received and adopted.

The Grand Chapter was called from labor to attend a Banquet at the Russell House, which had been generously tendered to the Officers, Members and Representatives in attendance at this Convocation, by the Companions of Carleton Chapter, No. 16, and to meet on to-morrow, Wednesday, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

WEDNESDAY, August 14th, 1867.

The Grand Chapter resumed its sittings at 11 o'clock, A. M.

PRESENT.

M. E. Comp. T. Douglas Harington, Grand Z.
R. " " C. D. Macdonnell, as " H.
" " " James H. Rowan, as " J.

On the Throne.

Officers, Members and Representatives.

The rough minutes of the proceedings of the previous day were read and approved.

The Executive Committee submitted their report on matters contained in the reports of the various Grand Superintendents of Districts, as follows:

ON GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS OF DISTRICTS REPORTS.

The executive Committee has had laid before it the following reports. To wit: those of

R. E. Comp.	Charles Kahn,	London District.
" " "	David Curtis,	Wilson "
" " "	Thomas Duggan,	Hamilton, "
" " "	James Adams,	Toronto, "
" " "	L. H. Henderson,	Prince Edw'd "
" " "	Thomas Milton,	Montreal "
" " "	H. L. Robinson,	E. Townships "
" " "	Thomas Lambert,	Quebec "

Your Committee has duly considered the said reports, and must congratulate Grand Chapter upon the excellent condition of capitular Masonry in the jurisdiction, as shown by the same.

Your Committee cannot endorse the recommendation contained in R. E. Comp. Kahn's report, relative to the annual Convocations of Grand Chapter being held at the same *time* as Grand Lodge holds its Communications, inasmuch as the week is fully occupied by Grand Lodge, and sufficient time cannot then be found for our Convocations without holding them in the following week. This, your Committee thinks, would not be found convenient, as it would keep the Companions away from their homes over Sunday.

Grand Chapter is not usually attended by the same brethren who attend Grand Lodge, and the objection to the present arrangement is not, in this view, as objectionable as might appear at first sight.

A later time in the year, say in September or October, might be selected for the Grand Chapter Convocations, and might prove more generally convenient than the present meetings in August, following, as they do, so closely the Grand Lodge meetings.

Your Committee, however, recommend that in view of the Confederation of the Provinces, it is highly desirable that the present perambulating system of meeting of Grand Chapter should be discontinued, and that some central place should be decided upon where the meetings shall be held from year to year, as it is evidently undesirable that the books, records, &c., should continue to be carried about from place to place as heretofore.

Your Committee would suggest to Grand Chapter that some action should be taken to bring about uniformity of Ritual in the working of subordinate chapters; and, if necessary to meet that end, that properly qualified persons be appointed to instruct chapters—the chapters availing themselves, paying for such services.

Your Committee notices that no report has been received for the Central District, neither was there any report received from that District at the Convocation at St. Catherines. The Chapters in that District are, your Committee hopes, in a satisfactory condition; but still it thinks that the provision of the Constitution

calling for such annual report should be punctually complied with. Your Committee would recommend that more care be observed in the nomination and appointment of the Grand Superintendents, and only those companions be selected for that responsible office who are likely to devote the requisite time to the duties.

All which is respectfully submitted.

HENRY A. SIMS,
Acting Chairman.

OTTAWA, 13th August, 1867.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. H. A. Sims, seconded by E. Comp. George EnEarl, and resolved—

That the foregoing report of the Executive Committee be received and adopted.

A letter from Comp. Aug. Row was read.

It was moved by E. Comp. Wm. Ellis, seconded by R. E. Comp. A. S. Kirpatrick, and unanimously resolved—

That the thanks of this Grand Chapter are due, and are hereby most cordially tendered to the Companions of Carleton Chapter, No. 16, for the handsome entertainment extended to all the Officers and Representatives present at this Annual Convocation.

The M. E. Z. installed and invested the newly elected and appointed Officers present, who were proclaimed, and saluted with the usual Masonic forms.

The M. E. Z. directed that each Companion elected or appointed to office, not having presented himself for installation or investiture, be installed or invested in the Chapter of which he is a member.

The Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment for the space of one hour.

The Grand Chapter resumed its sittings at 5.15 o'clock, P. M.

PRESENT:

M. E. Comp.	T. Douglas Harington,		Grand Z.
R. " "	W. J. B. McLeod Moore,	as	" H.
" " "	A. A. Stevenson,	as	" J.

On the Throne.

Grand Officers, Members and Representatives.

The Executive Committee submitted the following report on the M. E. Z.'s address:

REPORT.

Your Committee to whom was referred the admirable address of the M. E. G. Z., delivered at the opening of the present Convocation, beg leave to report as follows:

The prosperous circumstances under which this, the Tenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Canada is held, very properly calls for our devout acknowledgments to the Most High, through whose mercy and loving kindness we are again permitted to meet together to discuss the progress of our beloved Order, and to devise measures for ensuring its continued efficiency.

Your Committee take great pleasure in welcoming to our fold the new Chapters to whom dispensations have been granted during the year, and they sincerely hope that an examination of their records will prove them worthy of receiving warrants, as recommended.

Whilst noting the M. E. G. Z.'s remarks regarding the revival of St. Andrew's Chapter, Toronto, your Committee regret to learn from the Grand Superintendent of the District, now present, that the sanguine anticipations therein expressed have not as yet been realized. They would therefore suggest that a period of three or six months be fixed by the M. E. G. Z., within which active work shall be resumed; and, in the event of failure, that the Warrant of said Chapter be then revoked.

Your Committee heartily join in the M. E. Z.'s congratulations on the steady increase of subordinate Chapters hailing under this jurisdiction; and they glean with pleasure from the several District reports, that in nearly every instance a living, active zeal marks their onward progress.

Your Committee are glad to learn that the careful revision of Chapter By-Laws has engaged so much attention from the M. E. G. Z., and they rely with confidence on the beneficial results that will flow from his judicious action in this important department of his labors.

Regarding the suggested reduction of the exaltation fee required by Constitution, to meet the peculiar circumstances of military and naval brethren, your Committee are of opinion that each subordinate Chapter can deal with all such applicants in a satisfactory manner without resorting to any change in the present Constitution, which might lead to pernicious irregularities that all would deplore.

Your Committee cannot too cordially endorse the M. E. G. Z.'s views upon *work*, the correct exemplification of which is a matter of deep moment to all our subordinates. They also commend to the serious attention of Grand Chapter the imperative necessity of securing uniform ceremonies upon constituting and consecrating new Chapters, as well as for installing officers after each annual election; and they strongly urge the appointment of a Special Committee by the M. E. G. Z. at the present Convocation, whose duty it shall be to report thereon and exemplify the same at the next annual meeting.

Your Committee sincerely rejoice that the relations of this Grand Chapter with all sister Grand Bodies are of the kindliest and most fraternal character, which, they fondly trust, will ever continue.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is, as usual, replete with useful and interesting information, forming a valuable addition to our Masonic literature; and too hearty thanks cannot be accorded to the Committee, and especially to R. E. Comp. Seymour, for the great care exercised, time expended, and trouble incurred in its preparation.

Your Committee are of opinion that the M. E. G. Z. has pursued a prudent and truly Masonic course in not hastily recognizing the so-called Grand R. A. Chapter of the District of Columbia, while its right to existence continues a subject of dispute with the General Grand Chapter of the United States, which claims to exercise supreme control over all capitular bodies in that country. They further believe that future action on this delicate question may be safely left in his hands.

Your Committee are pained to hear of the continued distress prevailing in the Southern States of the adjoining Republic; and, whilst regretting the inability of this Grand Chapter to contribute any amount towards their relief, they earnestly remit the M. E. G. Z.'s feeling suggestions to the benevolent consideration of all our subordinate Chapters and companion members.

Your Committee hail with unfeigned pleasure the gratifying fact, so patriotically alluded to by the M. E. G. Z., of the several Provinces of British America being united in one confederation, under the benign sway of our beloved Sovereign. They have the fullest confidence that the change will greatly tend to advance the material progress and promote the future happiness of the people of this important portion of the British Empire, and at the same time cement more strongly, if possible, the ties of kindred, loyalty and interest, which have bound them in bonds of filial attachment to the parent land.

Your Committee concur in opinion with the M. E. G. Z. as to the altered territorial relations which confederation forces upon this Grand Chapter; and in so doing, they endorse his views upon our right to exercise supreme jurisdiction over the several Provinces now united together. They therefore urge that the formal notice recommended by him be sent to the Parent Bodies; that the several Chapters working under them be fraternally invited to accept Warrants from this Grand Chapter, and meet with us at our next Annual Convocation; and furthermore, that a Special Committee be appointed by the M. E. G. Z. to carry out the suggested preliminaries and report thereon at the first ensuing Convocation.

Your Committee would cheerfully approve of any practical

scheme emanating from the M. E. G. Z., whereby unaffiliated Companions could be compelled to contribute towards our charities. They nevertheless fail to discover any effectual solution of the difficulty; for, while holding that non-affiliation deprives Companions of all right to masonic relief, the justice of exacting contributions from such persons, to say nothing of the seeming impossibility of enforcing payment, is open to very grave doubts.

Your Committee heartily echo the desire of the M. E. G. Z. in relation to old Masonic documents, and would urge upon all Companions who possess any papers of historic worth the duty of lending them to R. E. Comp. Fowler, and co-operating with him in the interesting and really valuable compilation he is now publishing in THE CRAFTSMAN, which deserves generous encouragement.

In conclusion, your Committee beg to tender the grateful thanks of this Grand Chapter to our M. E. G. Z., for his devoted attention to the interests of Capitular Masonry in Canada, the prosperity of which is largely attributable to his unwearied exertions in its behalf, and they would fervently unite with him in exhorting the Companions to live up to those holy teachings inculcated at our altars, which he so impressively enjoins. By so doing we cannot fail to secure the continued blessings of the Most High, who will also support our order with every moral and social virtue.

All which is respectfully submitted,

H. A. SIMS,
Chairman, pro tem.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. H. A. Sims, seconded by R. E. Comp. D. Curtis, and resolved,

That the report of the Executive Committee on the address of the M. E. Z. be received and adopted.

R. E. Comp. H. A. Sims gave notice that at the next Annual Convocation he would move that in view of the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter being extended over the whole Dominion of Canada, that provision be made for creating the provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick into Royal Arch Districts, and for the appointment of a Grand Superintendent for such Districts and the Constitution be amended accordingly.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. H. A. Sims, seconded by E. Comp. M. J. May, and resolved,

That the M. E. Z. be requested to name a Committee to arrange the necessary Installation, Convocation and Dedication Ceremonies, and to report and exemplify the same at the next Annual Convocation.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. James Seymour, seconded by R. E. Comp. H. A. Sims, and resolved,

That in view of the recommendation of the M. E. Z., for the appointment of a special Committee to take into consideration the altered territorial relation of the Dominion of Canada, the M. E. Z. be hereby authorized to name such Committee as he may deem proper to correspond with the parent Grand Chapters, and the Subordinate Chapters, of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, with the view to the establishment of one Supreme Authority over said Dominion, and to report at the next Convocation.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. D. Curtis, seconded by R. E. Comp. James Seymour, and resolved,

That the M. E. Z. be hereby authorized to defray the

ERRATUM.

At page 126, 16th line from the top of page, for "Convocation" read *consecration.*

ADDENDA.

On motion, it was resolved that the next Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter be held at the City of Montreal.

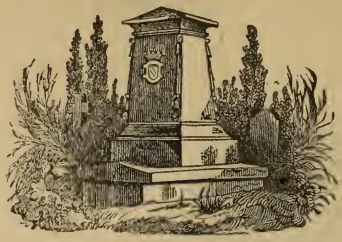
contingent expenses incurred in connection with this Annual Convocation.

The labor of Grand Chapter being ended, it was closed in form after solemn prayer.

ATTEST.

G. S. E.

AT REST.



Comp. JAMES CAHILL, 9th Nov. 1866.
THE HIRAM CHAPTER, No. 2, Hamilton.

Comp. ALEXANDER McDONALD, 13th Oct., 1866.
St. GEORGE'S CHAPTER, No. 5, London.

Comp. EMMETT A. McILROY, 15th May, 1867.
St. JOHN'S CHAPTER, No. 6, Hamilton.

Comp. JOHN J. FRASER, died in British Columbia.
" WILLIAM SMART, 10th July, 1865.
" FREDERIC G. MEACHEM, 31st January, 1866.
MOIRA CHAPTER, No. 7, Belleville.

Comp. RICHARD FLEMING, 5th Dec. 1866.
CATARAQUI CHAPTER, No. 12, Kingston.

Comp. GEORGE HARVIE, 10th Feb. 1864.
STADACONA CHAPTER, No. 13, Quebec.

Comp. ABRAHAM SLOCUM, ——
WAWANOSH CHAPTER, No. 15, Sarnia.

Comp. JONATHAN ROBINSON, 26th Oct. 1866.
DORCHESTER CHAPTER, No. 17, Waterloo, Quebec.

E. Comp. JORDAN CHARLES, 9th Sept. 1866.
" HENRY BROWN, 23rd March, 1866.
OXFORD CHAPTER, No. 18, Woodstock.

Comp. GEORGE STOKER, 17th Dec. 1866.
MOUNT MORIAH CHAPTER, No. 19, St. Catharines.

Comp. WILLIAM HANNAH, 1st Oct. 1865.
CARNARVON CHAPTER, No. 21, Montreal.

SUSPENSIONS.

Stadacona Chapter, No. 13, *Quebec.*

NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

Comps. Theop. Gosselin,
George Smith,
Thomas Hagan,
J. Gonde,
Patrick Loughram,
Comps. Thomas Lambkin,
Thomas C. Knowles,
Richard Greer,
Robert Hunter.

UNMASONIC CONDUCT.

Bro. Edmund Ronayne,

Tecumseh Chapter, No. 24, *Stratford.*

NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

Comp. Alexander McLaren.

Mount Horeb Chapter, No. 25, *Montreal.*

NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

Comp. Paul Coté.

RESTORATIONS.

St. George's Chapter, No. 5, *London.*

Comp. F. W. Thomas.

King Solomon's Chapter, No. 8, *Toronto,*

Comp. Charles Pollock.

Returns of Subordinate Chapters,

RENDERED A. D., 1867.

No. 1.—ANCIENT FRONTENAC CHAPTER, KINGSTON.

ESTABLISHED—A. D., 1795.

Stated Meetings—third Tuesday in Feb'ry, May, Aug't & Nov'r.

OFFICERS.

R. E. Comp.	Alex. S. Kirkpatrick,	Z
" "	Geo. M. Wilkinson,	H
" "	W. P. Phillips,	J
"	George Creggan,	Scribe E

Number of Members.....47

No. 2.—THE HIRAM CHAPTER, HAMILTON.

ESTABLISHED—A. D., 1820.

Stated Meetings—first Monday of every month.

OFFICERS.

V. E. Comp.	W. W. Pringle,	Z
" "	David Gillies,	H
" "	F. C. Bruce,	J
"	Alfred J. Nuthall,	Scribe E

Number of Members.....58

No. 4.—ST. ANDREW'S CHAPTER, TORONTO.

ESTABLISHED—A. D., 1847.

Stated Meetings—third Wednesday in Jan., April, July and Oct.

OFFICERS.

E. Comp.		Z	No Returns since 1863. Not working.
" "		H	
" "		J	
"	James Bain,	Scribe N	

Number of Members.....00

No. 5.—ST. GEORGE'S CHAPTER, LONDON.

ESTABLISHED—A. D., 1854.

Stated Meetings—fourth Friday in Feb., May, August and Nov.

OFFICERS.

R. E. Comp.	A. G. Smyth,	Z
" " "	T. F. McMullen,	H
" "	John Taylor,	J
"	F. Tabberner,	Scribe E

Number of Members 41

No. 6.—ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, HAMILTON.

ESTABLISHED—A. D., 1855.

Stated Meetings—second Thursday of every month.

OFFICERS.

R. E. Comp.	John W. Murton,	Z
" "	Benj. E. Charlton,	H
" "	Ed. Mitchell,	J
" "	T. H. Bartindale,	Scribe E

Number of Members.....80

No. 7.—MOIRA CHAPTER, BELLEVILLE.

ESTABLISHED—A. D. 1856,

Stated Meetings—first Tuesday of every month.

OFFICERS.

R. E. Comp.	A. A. Campbell,	Z
" "	W. H. Ponton,	H
" "	N. B. Falkiner,	J
"	Smith Stephens,	Scribe E

Number of Members.....74

No. 8.—KING SOLOMON'S CHAPTER, TORONTO.

ESTABLISHED—A. D., 1857.

Stated Meetings—first Thursday of every month.

OFFICERS.

R. E. Comp.	Augustus T. Houel,	Z
" "	James Curgenven,	H
" "	Arthur D. Lamb,	J
"	David McLellan,	Scribe E

Number of Members.....53

No. 9.—GOLDEN RULE CHAPTER, STANSTEAD.

ESTABLISHED—A. D., 1858.

Stated Meetings—Tuesday on or before full moon, in March, June, September and December.

OFFICERS.

V. E. Comp.	H. J. Martin,	Z	No returns, for 1866-7.
" "	W. S. Foster,	H	
" "	B. H. Steele,	J	
" "	C. H. Kathan,	Scribe E	

Number of Members 37

No. 12.—CATARAQUI CHAPTER, KINGSTON.

ESTABLISHED, A. D., 1850.—AFFILIATED, A. D., 1859.

Stated Meetings—second Monday in February, May, August, and November.

OFFICERS.

R. E. Comp.	John V. Noel,	Z
V. " "	S. H. Blondheim,	H
" "	T. McCadden,	J
"	R. C. Benedict,	Scribe E

Number of Members 22

No. 13.—STADACONA CHAPTER, QUEBEC.

ESTABLISHED, A. D., 1854.—AFFILIATED, A. D., 1859.

Stated Meetings—second Thursday in Jan., April, July and Oct.

OFFICERS.

V. E. Comp.	Henry J. Pratten,	Z
" "	Christopher Stanley,	H
" "	Henry Smeaton,	J
"	Wm. Couper,	Scribe E

Number of Members.....79

No. 14.—BEDFORD DISTRICT CHAPTER, DUNHAM.

ESTABLISHED—A. D., 1859.

Stated Meetings—Tuesday preceding full moon of every month.

OFFICERS.

E. Comp.	Z	No return, since formation.
" "	H	
" "	J	

Number of Members.....00 (Not working.)

No. 15.—WAWANOSH CHAPTER, SARNIA.
ESTABLISHED—A. D., 1859.

Stated Meetings—second Friday in Jan., April, July and Oct.

OFFICERS.

R. E. Comp.		William M. Jamieson,	Z
"	"	T. Blair Pardee,	H
"	"	W. P. Vidal,	J
	"	John A. MacKenzie,	Scribe E

Number of Members 25

No. 16.—CARLETON CHAPTER, OTTAWA.
ESTABLISHED—A. D., 1859.

Stated Meetings—second Wednesday in March, June, Sept. & Dec.

OFFICERS.

R. E. Comp.		John P. Featherston,	Z
V. "	"	M. J. May,	H
"	"	Fred. Marett,	J
	"	William Hay,	Scribe E

Number of Members.....56

No. 17.—DORCHESTER CHAPTER, WATERLOO.
ESTABLISHED—A. D., 1860.

Stated Meetings—first Thursday in every month.

OFFICERS.

R. E. Comp.		H. L. Robinson,	Z
"	"	W. G. Parmelee,	H
"	"	A. B. Parmelee,	J
	"	C. Skinner,	Scribe E

Number of Members.....38

No. 18.—OXFORD CHAPTER, WOODSTOCK.
ESTABLISHED—A. D., 1860.

Stated Meetings—first Friday of every month.

OFFICERS.

R. E. Comp.		Charles L. Beard,	Z
"	"	John Paterson,	H
"	"	A. McClenaghan,	J
	"	Robt. Stark,	Scribe E

Number of Members.....39

No. 19.—MOUNT MORIAH CHAPTER, ST. CATHARINES.

ESTABLISHED—A. D., 1861.

Stated Meetings—Friday on or after full moon of every month.

OFFICERS.

V. E. Comp. Henry Carlisle, Z
" " Robert Struthers, H
" " Lucius S. Oille, J
" Henry Booth, jun., Scribe E

Number of Members 70

No. 20.—MOUNT HOREB CHAPTER, BRANTFORD.

ESTABLISHED—A. D., 1861.

Stated Meetings—first Wednesday of every month.

OFFICERS.

V. E. Comp. John W. Lethbridge, Z
" " George Lauterback, H
" " F. Mudge, J
" Humphrey Davis, Scribe E

Number of Members 24

No. 21.—CARNARVON CHAPTER, MONTREAL.

ESTABLISHED—A. D., 1861.

Stated Meetings—third Thursday in Feb., May, Aug., and Nov.

OFFICERS.

R. E. Comp. Alex. A. Stevenson, Z
" " " Isaac H. Stearns, H
" " Arthur R. Sowdon, J
" David Douglas, Scribe E

Number of Members 39

No. 22.—GRENVILLE CHAPTER, PRESCOTT.

ESTABLISHED—A. D., 1861.

Stated Meetings—first Wednesday in Jan., April, July and Oct.

OFFICERS.

V. E. Comp. Rev. C. Forest, Z
" " " George EnEarl, H
" " William Ellis, J
" Mathew Dowsley Scribe E

Number of Members 20

No. 23.—EZRA CHAPTER, SIMCOE.

ESTABLISHED—A. D., 1861.

Stated Meetings—second Wednesday of every month.

OFFICERS.

V. E. Comp.	John Clark,	Z
" " "	John Wilson,	H
" "	D. M. Walker,	J
" "	A. J. Donly,	Scribe E

Number of Members 23

No. 24.—TECUMSEH CHAPTER, STRATFORD.

ESTABLISHED—A. D., 1863.

Stated Meetings—last Wednesday of every month.

OFFICERS.

E. Comp.	Thomas Winter,	Z
" "	John Rennie,	H
" "	Wm. Buckingham,	J
"	Alex. Matheson,	Scribe E

Number of Members 53

No. 25.—MOUNT HOREB CHAPTER, MONTREAL.

AFFILIATED—A. D., 1864.

Stated Meetings—second Wednesday of every month.

OFFICERS.

R. E. Comp.	Thomas Milton,	Z
V. " "	Wm. Johnson,	H
" "	R. Edminson,	J
"	R. Handsley,	Scribe E

Number of Members 34

No. 26.—ST. MARK'S CHAPTER, TRENTON.

ESTABLISHED—A. D., 1865.

Stated Meetings—second Wednesday of every month.

OFFICERS.

E. Comp.	W. Bleasdell,	Z
V. " "	Peter Begg,	H
" "	George Roblin,	J
"	David Roblin,	Scribe E

Number of Members 20

No. 27.—MANITOU CHAPTER, COLLINGWOOD.

ESTABLISHED—A. D., 1866.

Stated Meetings—first Friday of every month.

OFFICERS.

E. Comp.	Henry Macpherson,	Z
" "	John Nettleton,	H
" "	John Harvie,	J
V. " "	Henry Robertson,	Scribe E

Number of Members.....26

No. 28.—PENTALPHA CHAPTER, OSHAWA.

ESTABLISHED—A. D., 1866.

Stated Meetings—first Friday of every month.

OFFICERS.

E. Comp.	William McCabe,	Z
" "	Geo. Hy. Dartnell,	H
" "	Bradford Patterson,	J

Charter Members.....11

No. 29.—McCALLUM CHAPTER, DUNNVILLE.

ESTABLISHED—A. D., 1866.

Stated Meetings—Friday on or after full moon of every month.

OFFICERS.

E. Comp.	Lachlan McCallum,	Z
" "	Arr Brownson,	H
" "	Jabez Amsden,	J

Charter Members.....10

No. 30.—HURON CHAPTER, GODERICH.

ESTABLISHED—A. D., 1867.

Stated Meetings—.....of every month.

OFFICERS.

E. Comp.	Isaac F. Toms,	Z
" "	James Somerville,	H
" "	Robert Booth,	J

Charter Members.....9

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Your Committee on Correspondence with sister Grand Chapters beg leave to report that they have reviewed the proceedings of the following Grand Bodies, handed to them by the G. S. E., viz :—

1. Alabama	1867	12. Maryland	1866
2. Arkansas	1866	13. Michigan	1866–7
3. California	1866	14. Mississippi	1867
4. Connecticut	1866	15. New Jersey	1866
5. Georgia	1867	16. New York	1867
6. Illinois	1866	17. North Carolina	1866
7. Iowa	1866	18. Ohio	1867
8. Kansas	1866	19. South Carolina	1867
9. Kentucky	1866	20. Tennessee	1866
10. Louisiana	1867	21. Virginia	1867
11. Maine	1866	22. Wisconsin	1866–7

For the first time in several years, your Committee miss the usually interesting transactions of Scotland, which have not, as yet, come to hand. They likewise have still to regret, that they do not this year find in the foregoing list copies of the reports of proceedings of the Grand Chapters of England and Ireland ; but trust they may yet come to hand in time for notice before this report goes to press. Should they fail to arrive, however, your Committee would recommend that the Grand Scribe E., communicate with our representatives at these Grand Chapters, to secure a more punctual reciprocation of proceedings. They also are without reports from the following Grand Bodies since the dates specified, viz. :—Florida, 1866 ; Indiana, 1866 ; Massachusetts, 1865 ; Minnesota, 1858 ; Missouri, 1866 ; New Hampshire, 1865 ; Oregon, 1866 ; Pennsylvania, 1860 ; Rhode Island, 1865 ; Texas, 1860 ; and Vermont, 1865. Probably several of these were duly forwarded to our Grand Scribe E. ; but if so, they have failed to reach him, and hence your Committee are deprived

of the pleasure of reviewing their contents. Without further preface, we commence our digest with the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of

ALABAMA.

The Fortieth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held in the Masonic Hall, Montgomery, on the 4th November, 1866. In the absence of the G. H. P., R. E. Comp. Peleg Brown, D. G. H. P., presided, and R. E. Comp. Daniel Sayre, Grand Secretary. Of 90 Chapters on the roll, 48 were represented; 56 were in good standing; 9 in arrears; 3 under dispensation; and 22 had forfeited their warrants. The work of the year is thus reported:—exalted, 292; affiliated, 62; withdrawn, 232; rejected, 17; suspended, 62; expelled, 2; total members, 2,850; receipts, $1,235.00; on hand, $986.00.

Finding that he could not attend, the G. H. P. sent his address to the Grand Secretary, but it did not reach him in time to be read. It is, however, printed with the proceedings, and is confined chiefly to matters of local interest. From it we learn that Royal Arch Masonry is in a healthy condition, and peace and harmony reigns throughout the jurisdiction. Two of the decisions reported by him as having been given during the year, strikes us as rather novel, and will be so considered by many others. The first is as follows:

"A Chapter may adopt a by-law declaring that any companion who shall be engaged in selling spirituous liquors, is guilty of unmasonic conduct. Such companion is entitled to a fair trial, and the penalty after conviction may be a reprimand, suspension or expulsion; but the Chapter cannot dimit him; it has a right to pass a by-law suppressing vice or immorality. The Grand Lodge has promulgated that 'retail traffic in intoxicating drinks is demoralizing in its tendency; opposed to the principles of the Order, and inconsistent with the masonic character.' If so in the Blue Lodge, how much more careful ought we to be in the Grand Chapter,—we, who profess to have progressed, and to have attained a higher position."

If *retail* traffic is demoralizing, surely *wholesale* dealing must

be worse; yet we must infer that Alabama condemns the lesser evil while it tolerates the greater. We are not informed under what circumstances their Grand Lodge resolved as above recorded on a question of this nature; but it occurs to us that if they studied more closely the landmarks of Masonry, they would find sufficient to govern such cases, without making the Order subservient to teetotal quacks and monomaniacs. Temperance is a cardinal Masonic requirement, and being so, no craftsman can disobey it without becoming liable to punishment; hence special legislation on the subject is totally unnecessary, and not calculated to raise the character of the fraternity in the remotest degree with reflecting men.

The next decision is in relation to exalting "maimed brethren," which the G. H. P. holds to be correct. He says: "A brother was balloted for and accepted for exaltation; but before he could receive the degrees he was called off upon duty, and was thus prevented from receiving them. During this necessary absence he had the misfortune to lose one of his arms in battle. On his return home he still desires the degrees, being in every respect worthy. I unhesitatingly recommend that the Chapter exalt him, or, in the event they refuse, that they recommend him to some other Chapter for exaltation. It is just such a case as peculiarly commends our unfortunate brother to masonic sympathy and masonic hearts." While admitting the claim of such a brother to sympathy, and deeply sympathizing with him in his affliction, we fail to perceive how that sympathy can be enhanced one iota by placing him in a position, the requirements of which he is physically incapable of complying with. We unhesitatingly condemn such mistaken sympathy, and hope to hear of its being disapproved by the committee on jurisprudence, as fraught with danger to the best interests of Royal Arch Masonry.

R. E. Comp. Sayre presented the report on foreign correspondence, embracing the transactions of 18 sister Grand Bodies—Canada *not* included. The report covers 22 pages, and is written in a vigorous, masterly style, showing the writer to be well up to his work.

We regret to observe in the obituary page the names of several

esteemed companions, including the lamented H. P. Watson, P. G. H. P., who have passed from time to eternity.

M. E. Comp. Geo. D. Norris was elected G. H. P., and R. E. Comp. Daniel Sayre, re-elected Grand Secretary.

ARKANSAS.

The Seventeenth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held in the Masonic Temple, Little Rock, on the 1st Nov., 1866,—M. E. Comp. Luke E. Barber, G. H. P., presiding, and R. E. Comp. Wm. D. Blocher, Grand Secretary. Of 38 Chapters in the jurisdiction, including 7 under dispensation, 17 only presented returns, and 13 were represented. The finances do not appear very flourishing, and no books or papers could be found by the finance committee, save for 1865–66. These show the total receipts at $220.00; expenses, $126.00; in hand, $93.00. No other statistics are given to indicate the quantity of work done, or the total number of members in the jurisdiction.

The G. H. P.'s address is one of the best we have ever perused; breathing throughout a truly masonic spirit, and inculcating on the companions doctrines and principles calculated to render them an honor to the craft, and a benefit to the human family at large, if only carried out as they should be. As a sample, we give the following eloquent extract in reference to the discharge of masonic duty incumbent on all true craftsmen:

"Companions, I fear that many of us, if we permit our memories to range unchecked over the past few years, and let our judgments be honestly and impartially exercised, will find that we have often failed in the discharge of fraternal duty. How often have we failed in visiting the afflicted! How often, in ministering to the necessities of the needy! How often, in mourning with those that mourned! How often, in acts of sympathy, in words of consolation even, to those in sorrow and distress! Happy the man who can look over the past, and feel that none of these suggestions touch him! Unhappy he, who knows that in these or in other instances he has failed in his duty! Past opportunities, if unimproved, cannot be recalled, nor can

the neglect be atoned for; but the remembrance that we have permitted them to come and go in silent disregard of masonic obligations, should incite us to a more careful and energetic discharge of duty in the present and in the future."

We learn with pleasure that Royal Arch Masonry in this State is advancing, though not with those rapid strides observable elsewhere, owing to vicissitudes arising out of the late war.

The G. H. P. thus relates the course of action pnrsued by him in relation to charges of U. M. C. preferred against the H. P. of a subordinate Chapter. On receipt of the charges, he says:

"I sent my mandate, together with the charges, to a committee of three High Priests, directing them to assemble at the Chapter for the purpose of enquiring into the truth or falsehood thereof, giving notice to the accused and the accusers of the time of meeting; to receive and reduce to writing the testimony offered by both parties; to endorse their own opinion as to the result of the enquiry, and forward the testimony, etc., to me—intending, that if, from all the evidence, I deemed the High Priest unfit to preside over the Chapter, to suspend him from the exercise of the office, and place the Chapter under the control of the King and Scribe, until the matter could be submitted to you."

The committee on masonic law subsequently reported on this action, which was confirmed; and viewing the report as sound in principle, we quote it at length:

"The committee have had under consideration so much of the address of the M. E. G. H. P. as relates to the mode of impeaching and trying the High Priest of a subordinate Chapter; and respectfully recommend that the mode adopted by him, in the instance referred to in his address, be approved as a precedent for future cases, under the following regulations:

"1. Any subordinate Chapter has not the right to try its High Priest; he is amenable to the Grand Chapter.

"2. Any five companions of his Chapter may impeach the High Priest of a Chapter before the G. H. P., who shall send his mandate to three H. P.'s, together with the charges, directing them to assemble at the Chapter of the accused for the purpose

of enquiring into the truth or falsehood of the charges; and they shall give notice to the accused and accusers of the time of meeting, receive and reduce to writing the testimony offered by both parties, endorse their own opinion as to the result of the enquiry, and forward the testimony, with their opinion upon it, to the Grand H. P.

"3. If the G.H.P., after examining all the evidence, shall deem the High Priest impeached unfit to preside over the Chapter, he may suspend him from the exercise of his office, and summon him to appear at the ensuing meeting of the Grand Chapter for trial upon the charges."

The G. H. P. is very decided in his views concerning non-affiliated companions, and the causes which lead to their becoming *drones* in our hive. These are so forcible, that, even though they will occupy a greater space than we would like to devote to them, we are constrained to give them in full for the good they may be the means of accomplishing in our own jurisdiction. He says:

"Once again, I call your attention to the fact that there is among us a large number of non-affiliated masons. Our Grand Masonic Bodies have, time and again, made efforts to correct this evil; but, so far, have failed. We may well believe that the efforts made have not been in the right direction, or that there has been some radical error, which, being committed, it is not within the power of masonic legislation to correct. For my own part, I do not believe that the cold, lukewarm, indifferent mason can be reclaimed. By the denial of privileges, and in the fear that their interests might suffer, some have been brought back to membership; but how have our Lodges or Chapters been benefited otherwise than in the least of all service, the paymen of dues! They bring to our meetings, if they come at all, the same cold and listless indifference that kept them away. They are of no usefulness to the cause whatever; they add not one stone to our masonic building; as they were drones without, they are drones within our temple. Others withstand all masonic legislation. Such would have no just cause of complaint were the Grand Bodies to declare them totally unworthy, and order

their expulsion—thus absolving us from all connection with them, as they have attempted to dissolve their connection with us. I have not referred to this class of masons for the purpose of suggesting any legislation in reference to them, but to express my own opinion as to the cause of the evil, and its most effectual preventive in the future. *I believe that it arises from a too great facility of passing from degree to degree, and from order to order.* What apprenticeship does the initiate serve? A few questions *inaccurately learned* and *bunglingly answered*, and he becomes a fellow-craft; and through the same routine he is raised to the sublime degree of Master, having acquired nothing but some faint impressions of ceremonies, the meaning of which is as little comprehended by him as when he was in darkness; and then he lingers along his masonic pathway for a time, until the novel association becomes familiar; and, unenlightened by the rays of truth that beam upon him, he dies masonically, unless called to life at intervals by some *procession or public display.* Or, it may be, that though profoundly ignorant of the truths that lie at the very threshold, and too indolent or indifferent to acquire them, he aspires to those supposed to be taught in the higher orders; and in these, he passes through with increased velocity and profounder ignorance of the ways through which he is conducted; and so on to others, as far as he may be permitted to go, with real, elevating knowledge of none. And then! The Blue Lodge meetings are ignored, and soon a dimit asked for, or in effect taken, by continued, persistent absence; soon the Chapter meetings are unattended; and if there be any attractions in the Council, or Commandery, their meetings may be attended, but with no sense of duty to the craft—with no thought of improvement in themselves.

"I am not an advocate for a probation measured by time; but I do think that the *character* of one seeking advancement, whether from degree to degree, or order to order, *should be as carefully enquired into* as when he applies to become an initiate; not merely, then, an inquiry as to morals and intelligence, but also *as to his masonic education and masonic knowledge*—as to the interest, energy and industry he has evinced for the work—as to his love for, and appreciation of the order, as evidenced by

his performance of duty. If this was strictly adhered to, and none admitted to the higher orders except those who are industrious, intelligent and zealous workmen, affiliated and attending members in all the bodies through which they are required to pass, I am strongly inclined to think that when the non-affiliated of our day shall pass away, we shall be freed from this reproach upon the Order."

The committee on grievances and appeals properly reported against the request of a companion, (who had been black-balled in a Chapter on applying for affiliation,) that the party who cast the black ball should be compelled to state his reasons for so doing,—which, they say, "cannot be granted without violating well-established principles of masonic law." Furthermore, they argue that "the Grand Chapter cannot send its mandate to the companion who cast the black ball, requiring him to state his reasons for so doing, because it does not know who he is, and has no right to know who he is, nor has his Chapter any right to demand him to disclose his name, or the reasons for his ballot. The ballot on applications for affiliation, or for the degrees, is strictly and properly secret—sacredly secret. When a companion casts his ballot, he does it, or should do it, under an honest and conscientious sense of the duties and obligations resting upon him as a Royal Arch Mason. But he must judge of the fitness of the applicant for affiliation. He should not cast a black ball without having good masonic reasons for it; but if he does, he is only answerable to his own conscience and the Judge of all hearts for his conduct. He is not answerable to his Chapter, or to this Grand Chapter, for he is under no obligation to disclose the fact that he cast the black ball. On the supposition, however, that the ballot was cast for good masonic objections to the character of the applicant, he should prefer charges against the rejected companion, which he may do without disclosing the fact that he cast the black ball, or even disclosing his name, if he thinks proper to withhold it."

The same committee decided that a companion who had cast a black ball against a candidate, and during refreshment the same evening ascertained that he had done so unjustly, could not withdraw his vote on the Chapter resuming work; but that

a new ballot should be taken at the next meeting, "because it could not be certain in all cases that he had cast the ball without a new ballot."

A very interesting and readable report of 40 pages on Foreign Correspondence was submitted by Comp. S.W. Williams, covering the proceedings of 16 Grand Chapters, and a graphic *resume* of the *Bulletin du Grand Orient de France.* The transactions of Canada are not included in this brochure, except a casual notice through those of New York. There is a raciness and originality in the composition of Comp. Williams which will always instruct and edify.

A memorial page is devoted to the memory of Comp. Thomas D. Merrick, late Grand Secretary, whose merits as a worthy mason are fraternally attested.

The same G. H. P. and Grand Secretary were re-elected.

CALIFORNIA.

The Thirteenth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held in the Masonic Temple, San Francisco, on the 15th October, 1866,—M. E. Comp. John Kirkpatrick, G. H. P., presiding, and R. E. Comp. L C. Owen as Grand Secretary. The attendance was excellent, and comprised representatives from 30 Chapters, out of 34 on the roll. Of these, one Chapter (No. 10,) surrendered its warrant; 32 made returns; and 2 were unheard from. The statistics are as follows:—exalted, 162; affiliated, 32; withdrawn, 100; suspended, 40; expelled, 1; died, 18; rejected, 16; total members, 1342; receipts of year, $4,475.50; expenses, $3,719.03; in hand, $756.47. Two days were consumed in transacting their business.

The G. H. P.'s address is a brief but fraternal document, in which the royal craft are courteously felicitated upon the flourishing state of the Order, and the community at large upon the fact, that "in all the various pursuits of life, the industrious and active are attended with success." Would that the same story could be told of other jurisdictions, several of which, though blessed with "peace within their own walls," are not enjoying

that measure of "prosperity within their palaces" which in other days they were favored with.

The G. H. P. reports having granted several dispensations during the year for special purposes, which action was very properly referred to the committee on jurisprudence. Strange to say, that committee reported that "they were issued in cases provided for by the constitution;" and that "such references are altogether useless, because the dispensations have long since been acted upon by the subordinates, and there is no complaint against them. The only result is to encumber the proceedings with immaterial reports." This sounds rather harsh, though perhaps not so intended.

The report on Foreign Correspondence, from the able pen of Comp. L. C. Owen, reviews the proceedings of 22 sister Grand bodies—Canada for 1865 included. Copious extracts are quoted from the latter, including the entire paragraphs in reference to the *status* of the Mark Master's degree in England, which, we regret to say, still occupies the same anomalous position referred to in 1865. Comp. Owen holds the opinion that a Chapter officer has a *right* to resign or withdraw at his pleasure. The opposite ruling holds with us, no matter whether such officer leaves the jurisdiction or merely removes to another part thereof.

Included in the obituary list are the revered names of R. E. Companions P. W. Shepheard, late Grand Treasurer; Arvid Arvidsson, H. P.; W. H. Howard and S. F. Hamm, P. H. P.'s. A memorial page is devoted to the former, as a faithful officer of Grand Chapter.

M. E. Comp. Charles Marsh was elected G. H. P., and R. E. Comp. L. C. Owen, Grand Secretary.

CONNECTICUT.

The sixty-eighth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held in the Masonic Hall, New Haven, on the 8th May, 1866, M. E. Companion Luke A. Lockwood, G. H. P., presiding, and R. E. Companion W. E. Sanford, Grand Secretary. Representatives were present from 23 subordinates, the remaining 6,

which complete the 29 chapters on the roll, being dormant or unheard from. The only statistics given are—exalted 313; admitted 5; withdrawn 11; died 28; receipts $734; on hand $559.

The G. H. P. delivered a very eloquent address, in which much sound sense is used in dealing with questions of common interest to the royal craft, "wheresoever dispersed." After recounting official acts performed during his incumbency, and adverting to the flourishing state of Royal Arch Masonry in his jurisdiction—principally through the pains-taking zeal of the Grand Council, in visiting and instructing all subordinates—he alludes to the General Grand Chapter as a "necessary sovereign power for *advisory purposes*," but warns its advocates against pressing the increased authority proposed at the last tri-ennial convocation. "The functions now possessed by it," he says, "are as great as is conducive to the best interests or compatible with the peace and harmony of capitular masonry," and that "any attempt to exercise discipline upon State Grand Chapters will never be tolerated by them, except as advice, admonition or reproof." Speaking of their ritual, he seems enraptured with its perfection, because "it is correct in its symbolism, and its statements of historical, geographical and traditional facts, are consistent with the whole body of Masonry. It is free from anachronisms, and has no ceremony without its proper symbolic teaching." This *may* be true; but in the humble opinion of your committee, there is room to doubt the accuracy of one feature of their organization, namely: that of their three principal officers, who are designated H. P., K., and S., instead of Z., H. and J., as in England, Scotland and Ireland, whence they originally derived the Order. We in Canada adhere to the latter, as being more in accordance with historical fact, and if our Connecticut companions will only examine *authoritative* data—not the mere dictum of Webb and other ritual manufacturers—they will find that *we* and not *they* are correct in this particular. We have never met an American companion at one of our Chapters, whether from east, west, north or south—and we have met many—who has not admitted, after witnessing Canadian work and its symbolisms, that it possesses a harmony

and accuracy in accordance with history and tradition, in vain to be sought for in Chapters on the other side of the line, 45°. Your committee state this much with the view of drawing out enquiry as to which is nearest perfection, rather than to indulge in anything like self-glorification, well knowing that each mother thinks her own child the best. Referring to uniformity of work, the G. H. P. holds that "as long as essentials and landmarks are preserved, the intelligent craftsman should not be restricted to a precise formula in imparting masonic teachings." Experience points out that this doctrine, if once generally resorted to, would soon destroy the life-blood of our Order, and its partial practice in the United States has done more to retard necessary uniformity than aught else. "Intelligence" such as he refers to, has already begotten a spirit of tinkering originality that chafes under the restraint of the "old beaten track;" hence we find that in several jurisdictions, they have "beautified, adorned and embellished" the work to so great an extent, that it requires much searching amongst *rubbish* to find prevailing any of the old customs and means of recognition. We heartily endorse his views against the modern tendency to over-legislation in masonic matters, fully believing that changes in organic laws and regulations should never be resorted to unless the weightiest reasons call therefor.

The D. G. H. P., G. K., and G. S., also presented interesting reports of their visits and official acts during the year.

The report on Foreign Correspondence, written by Companion Wm. Storer. is prepared with his usual care, and comprises an entertaining review of the doings of ten sister Grand Bodies, Canada *not* included, We hope to see this otherwise next year, as our proceedings are regularly sent to Connecticut.

M. E. Comp. L. A. Lockwood was re-elected G. H. P., and R. E. Comp. John W. Paul, Grand Secretary.

ILLINOIS.

The Seventeenth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held at Chicago, on the 5th of October, 1866—M. E. Comp. L. L. Munn, G. H. P., presiding, and R. E. Comp. H. G. Reynolds

Grand Secretary. Representatives were in attendance from 77 subordinate Chapters, out of 84, from which returns were submitted, besides 16 under dispensation, to whom warrants were granted. Five Chapters have become extinct. The statistics of this Grand body are very full, and show an activity on the part of the Grand Secretary highly creditable to him. We extract from them as follows :—Members exalted, 938; admitted, 74; suspended, 22; withdrawn, 216; expelled, 5; rejected, 93; died, 43; total members, 4,438; receipts, $3,811.90; available funds on hand and invested, $8006.39.

The address of the G. H. P. is remarkably comprehensive in detail of official acts, and shows that the royal craft in this state is in a very flourishing condition. Over 1,000 exaltations in one year, he properly says, should make every companion jealously careful in canvassing the merits of applicants for the mysterious of this supreme degree. There is reason to fear that of this large number, several have gained admittance, whose rejection would have been better for themselves and more creditable to the discernment of examining committees. Were more care used, none would be admitted but "material such as we are authorized to receive."

Your committee are surprised to find this Grand Chapter, by resolution, declaring "that a companion in a subordinate Chapter is eligible for election to the office of H. P. (Z.) without serving either as K. (H.) or S. (J.)" The ancient usages make it a *sine qua non* in Blue Masonry, that a brother must have served one year as a Warden before being eligible for the W. M.'s chair. The relative positions in the capitular Order being precisely the same, particularly in the Mark, Past, and M. E. degrees, it seems as though our Illinois companions are ready to throw the highest and most responsible office in the gift of subordinates, open to the competition of members who may have popularity sufficient to secure election, but who, nevertheless, may lack the essential qualifications necessary for so onerous a station. We hope that serious reflection will lead to the repeal of this "innovation" at an early day, or the consequences will surely prove disastrous to general welfare as the pernicious enactment bears fruit.

The report on Foreign Correspondence, furnished by the Grand Secretary, reviews in very interesting terms the proceedings of 23 Grand Chapters—Canada for 1865, included. Copious extracts are quoted from our records, and a fraternal spirit is shown in discussing and condensing the "marrow" found "in the bones dissected."

A memorial page is devoted to the decease of M. E. Comp. James H. Hibbard, P. G. M. and P. G. H. P., whose invaluable services in behalf of Masonry, deservedly entitle his memory to be cherished by surviving Companions.

M. E. Comp. Orlin H. Miner was elected G. H. P., and R. E. Comp. H. G. Reynolds, Grand Secretary.

IOWA.

The Twelfth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held in the Masonic Hall, Davenport, on the 1st June, 1866. M. E. Comp. John H. Brown, G. H. P., presided, and R. E. Comp. W. B. Langridge, Grand Secretary. Representatives were present from 16 subordinate chapters, out of 29 on the roll. Of these 28 submitted returns, showing an aggregate of 190 Companions exalted; 17 joined; 33 withdrawn; 12 suspended; 1 expelled; 4 died; total members 960; receipts, $1,212; expenses, $622; in hand, $720.

The G. H. P. delivered a sound, business-like address, pointing out in impressive terms the duties devolving upon the Companions, and earnestly exhorting them to live up to the standard of integrity and virtue required from Royal Arch Masons. He also departed from American usage so far, as to omit the customary philippic on "the late civil war," forcibly explaining his reasons therefor; a departure which, your committee think, might be observed with much propriety by many others, now that the strife has ceased, and more particularly because such topics are totally foreign to the genius and spirit of Freemasonry. His official acts are then narrated in detail, and so satisfactorily were they performed, that a cordial vote of thanks was tendered to him on retiring from office. He also suggests that this Grand Chapter should meet at a different

period from Grand Lodge, to prevent the one clashing with the other, or checking that careful consideration of capitular interests which is essential to the welfare of the royal craft. The same difficulty having arisen in Canada a few years since, a separate time was chosen, which has since proved beneficial in a general sense, though pecuniarily oppressive to members who have to bear double travelling expenses.

Three days were spent in discussing the various matters of business submitted, which were entirely of a local nature.

Petitioners for a new Chapter dispensation in this State are required to withdraw from other Chapters, before the necessary authority can be granted to organize the new institution.

Corinthian Chapter having improperly exalted a Companion from the bounds of Marion Chapter, the former had to pay over to the latter $23.00, being the full fees so improperly obtained.

An Album was ordered to be procured, in which to place the photographs of the principal officers of this Grand Chapter from its commencement—a feature that your committee would be glad to see copied in Canada.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is from the facile pen of Comp. Guilbert, M. D., who reviews in a terse manner the doings of 24 sister Grand bodies, including Canada for 1865, to which he pays a flattering compliment. While we admire the slashing style of this writer, and appreciate the vigour with which he applies the *scalpel* to errors in other authors, we would fraternally remind him of the old adage, that "those who live in glass houses should not throw stones." In condemning the bitterness of language used by one or two Southern reviewers, he unfortunately falls into the same error himself, and indulges in political *similes* and quotations, the propriety of which may well be questioned in friendly notices of sister masonic bodies. For instance, in condemning military chapters, he compares them to "the privateers of a neutral power in the late war, which went pirating about in different jurisdictions, violating all the principles of masonic comity." Were we to make a like comparison—which we might do with much more force—and refer to the cut-throats from a "neighboring territory," called Fenians,

who were patronized and encouraged by said neighbors to lawlessly pollute Canadian soil with their presence, even adding rapine and murder to their "piracy," Comp. Guilbert would be one of the first to raise objections, and deprecate the introduction of such topics into masonic proceedings. We therefore hold, that these *similes*, being repugnant to fraternal courtesy and the broad basis of charity that all are interested in cultivating, should find no place in our records; and we never hope to read them from Iowa again.

M. E. Comp. H. H. Hemenway was elected G. H. P., and R. E. Comp. W. B. Langridge, Grand Secretary.

KANSAS.

The First Annual Convocation of this young Grand Chapter was held in the Masonic Hall, Topeka, on the 18th October, 1866, commencing at the early hour of 8 o'clock in the morning. M. E. Comp. R. R. Rees, G. H. P., presided, and R. E. Comp. E. T. Carr, acted as Grand Secretary. The three original Chapters were fully represented, besides three organized during the year under dispensation, to whom warrants were granted. The returns show the following statistics:—exalted, 46; withdrawn, 24; suspended, 12; rejected, 6; died, 8; total members, 203. Receipts, $320.00; in hand, $143.80.

An admirable opening address was delivered by the G. H. P., which abounded in noble definitions of masonic principles, and high-toned exhortations to the Companions to adorn the faith they professed, by living up to its hallowed precepts. After referring briefly to local prosperity, and gratefully acknowledging the fraternal good-will extended to their new organization by sister Grand Chapters everywhere, he pays an eloquent tribute to the memory of Comp. O'Sullivan, of Missouri, and warns all to prepare for that change which will, sooner or later, overtake every son of Adam. "Avoid the evil and the dissolute," says he, "and remember that he who is false to family, kindred, or friends, will be as false to all fraternal ties. Trust not such, nor even let him cross your threshold. In the varied relations of life, act freely, manfully and independently; always guarding

against the insidious danger of permitting one of these relations to clash with another. Think not every man dishonest, whose faith, thoughts or feelings differ from your own; for if all thought alike on every subject, no emulation would exist, and man would soon sink to the level of the brute." He condemns with unsparing severity the too common practice of mixing masonry up with politics, religion and nationality, and truly says, that "as masons, in that separate association, we know no party, creed, or country,—no ties but those which bind us to each other, and cement the world-wide brotherhood in one homogenous community. 'Tis this, and this alone, that has sustained our Order through tumultuous ages. Once depart from this guiding principle, and 3,000 years of lineage would be buried in oblivion; masonry would fly into a thousand fragments, like sparks from a blacksmith's anvil; each peculiar dogma would start a Lodge or Chapter of its own; its identity would cease amidst contending factions, and you would witness the mournful ceremony of standing around the grave of the Order, while you heard the cold clods rattle on its coffin. Therefore stand aloof from all factions, whether sectional, national, world-wide, or intestine; but if you must mingle with them, do so as individuals,—not as masons: and in Heaven's name, mingle not the mystic bond as such in the strife. Masonic ties should only be called into requisition to help a fallen or yielding foe, to soften war's asperities, to soothe the widow and orphan, or the houseless or oppressed,—never to still the storm of factions; for the very elements of which the Order is composed contains the elements of strife. Lend all your energies to elevate the moral, social and intellectual condition of your race; raise the orphan and destitute from low estate to education and respectability; let the four cardinal virtues be your guide, and follow them as faithfully as the devotees pursued the star of Bethlehem. Then will our fraternity live imperishable, and stand a beacon-light to all good men for ages yet to come; and that it may be so, may the God of our fathers in his infinite mercy decree. Amen."

The business transacted was purely local, and destitute of special interest in these parts.

Comp. Carr presented the report on Foreign Correspondence,

covering the doings of 8 Grand Chapters, Canada *not* included, though forwarded in time. The report is couched in very modest terms, the writer not desiring to become too critical at the outset; but there is internal evidence, that as Comp. Carr grows older in the harness, latent ability will crop out, and his reports will vie with the brilliant utterances of their presiding officer.

M. E. Comp. R. R. Rees was again unanimously elected G. H. P., and R. E. Comp. E. T. Carr, Grand Secretary.

GEORGIA.

The first tidings received from this Grand Chapter for six years are now before us, and we need scarcely say that we hail them with lively satisfaction. They set forth that Annual Convocations were held in the Masonic Hall, Augusta, respectively on the 30th April, 1862; on the 29th April, 1863; and on the 25th April, 1866. M. E. Comp. P. T. Schley, G. H. P., presided at the first, and M. E. Comp. S. Lawrence, G. H. P., at the second and third. R. E. Comp. B. B. Russell acted as Grand Secretary at all three. At the convocation in 1862, fifteen Chapters were represented out of 45 on the records, but none presented returns of work or membership. In 1863, twenty Chapters convened, but again without returns, owing to the disturbed state of the country and the uncertain value of Confederate money. In 1864–65, the same cause led to a suspension of the annual convocations, until a restoration of peace brought about a resumption of meetings. Accordingly, we find in 1866, thirty-eight Chapters represented, including 4 U. D., out of 50 on the roll; statistics are also given by the 38, showing 670 exaltations; 48 affiliations; 68 restorations; 29 suspensions; 9 rejections; 32 deaths; no returns of members. Twelve Chapters made no returns of any kind. The receipts shown for the 3 years foot up to $1585.39; disbursed, $1420.29; on hand in Confederate notes, $165.10,—which, of course, are valueless.

The sentiments expressed by both G. H. P.'s in their eloquently couched addresses, remind us much of the wailings of the Israelites of old, when "they hung their harps on the willows, and lay down by the waters of Babylon and wept."

Both portray in moving terms how deeply the soul-harrowing events of the late civil war have pressed upon the Royal Craft in that once-prosperous State, and how many a noble spirit who previously mingled in their convocations will do so no more in "this vale of tears." Let us hope that the festering wounds inflicted on the body of Masonry, not only in Georgia, but in other of the late Confederate States, will now rapidly heal under the benignant influence of peace, and a firm resolve to blot out all unpleasant reminiscenses of the stormy past. Indeed we are justified in assuming that the healing process has already been well begun, from the increased vitality manifested by nearly all the subordinate Chapters; several of these report over fifty exaltations each.

A well-merited eulogy is pronounced by G. H. P. Lawrence on the memory of his talented predecessor, Comp. Schley, whom he fitly characterized as "the well-tried guardian of Freemasonry in Georgia in the days of peril and storm; when it was ruthlessly assailed by the combined efforts of blinded zealots, infuriate fanatics, and corrupt demagogues." A memorial page records his 39 years' labor in behalf of the noble principles he so worthily exemplified in his lifetime.

The same G. H. P., in his address at the last convocation, speaks of the merits of the late Lemuel Dwelle, for many years Grand Treasurer, and of his inestimable services in preserving the life of masonry in Georgia during those days of darkness apostrophized as "the valley of the shadow of death."

The remaining proceedings do not possess much to interest the companions of this jurisdiction, no report on Foreign Correspondence being given, nor any further reference to other Grand bodies than the mere mention of the receipt of the proceedings of 14, Canada not included. The G. H. P. and Grand Secretary were both re-elected.

KENTUCKY.

The Grand Chapter of Kentucky, began and held its Annual Convocation at the city of Louisville, on Monday October 15th, A. D. 1866. Out of sixty-nine Chapters, sixty were represented.

The M. E. G. H. P. Hudson, briefly addressed the Grand Chapter. He congratulated the Companions on the return of peace to the country and enjoined upon them the duty of gratitude to the Grand High Priest of Heaven and Earth, for delivery from the scourge of war and also from Cholera, which had raged with fearful violence in some parts of the continent. He spoke hopefully of the progress and prospects of Royal Arch Masonry, which had during the recess received an impetus such as it had probably never before received in the same length of time and there appeared a growing desire to do good, true, and square work, such as will be likely to reflect credit and honor to the builders. During the past year, viz., on the 11th day of December, 1865, the rooms in the Masonic Temple at Louisville, which had been furnished at a great expense by Louisville Council No. 4, Louisville Chapter No. 5, and King Solomon Chapter No. 18, were in an appropriate manner and in the presence of a large assemblage of Companions, dedicated to the true and living God.

The G. H. P. expressed regret that so little attention had been paid to the work of the Chapter. In many Chapters they had almost ceased to confer degrees, from a want of knowledge how to do it, and in many cases are compelled to send abroad for others to officiate. As a remedy for this state of affairs the following plan is suggested, viz:—"The Grand Chapter shall cause the work to be exemplified in the presence of Grand Chapter. When, if the same is approved, the G. H. P., shall appoint nine members from different parts of the State, who shall qualify themselves in said work and whose duty shall be to visit the Chapters in their jurisdictions at least twice during the year, promulgate the work and report the result of their labors at the next meeting of Grand Chapter, and for such service shall be paid out of the funds of the Grand Chapter, a certain sum for each Chapter visited." During recess the G. H. P., granted dispensations for the formation of eight new Chapters. In granting dispensations, for the foundation of new Chapters, the G. H. P. said, that he always regarded the petitioners as desirous of becoming members of the same, and when informed to the contrary, caused the name to be erased, holding that no

one can be a member of two Chapters at once. He c ndemned the practice of borrowing from one Chapter to form another as fraught with baneful influence. Companion Hodges submitted his Annual Report, which showed as follows:—Dr. $6,973 97; Cr. $6,332 33; balance in hand of Grand Treasurer, $641 64; the total resources of the Grand Chapter amount to $9,541 34, its resources having increased $1,407 07 during the year. Comp. Hodges presented the report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing the transactions of nineteen sister bodies, including Canada.

M. E. Comp. Joseph H. Branham, was elected G. H. P., and Comp. Philip Swizert, Grand Secretary.

LOUISIANA.

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of this State met on Tuesday, Feb. 12, 1867, in the Grand Hall, New Orleans,—M. E. G. H. P., Henry Regenburg, presiding; R. E. Sam'l M. Todd, Grand Secretary. Out of twenty-four Chapters in the State, ten chartered Chapters were represented, and four under dispensation.

The M. E. G. H. P. delivered an exceedingly brief address. He stated that he had signed dispensations for four new Chapters, all of which had been duly organized. Having been obliged to leave the city for some time during the year, he had been compelled to request the D. G. H. P., M. E. Comp. H. P. Buckley, to attend to the duties of the High Priest's office, and gave him full power to that effect. D. G. H. P. Buckley gave a brief summary of his official acts, none of which were of more than ordinary local interest.

The Grand Treasurer, H. N. Swazey, presented his report, which showed: receipts, $2,679.95; disbursements, $746.75; amount in treasury, $1,933.20. The Grand Secretary's report was then presented, that officer taking the opportunity of resigning his official position, after five years' service.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence submitted their report, embracing correspondence with twenty-five sister Bodies,

including Canada. With regard to Canadian Masonry, the report says: "It is with more than usual pleasure we open the proceedings of the various Masonic Bodies of Canada; there is a tone and ring of true Masonry about them which we look in vain for in most other proceedings on our continent. They do their work as though their hearts and souls were engaged in it, and as a natural consequence, Masonry flourishes, and the general response is, 'So mote it be.'" In referring to the condition of the general Grand Chapter, the committee says: "We are pleased to observe that the Grand Secretaries are giving us well-arranged tables of statistics, which, for reference and matters of historical interest, are invaluable to Royal Arch Masons." M. E. Comp. H. P. Buckley was elected G. H. P., and R. E. Comp. J. C. Batchelor, Grand Secretary.

MAINE.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine, assembled in Annual Convocation at Masonic Hall in Portland, on Monday, April 30, 1866. M. E. G. H. P., A. J. Fuller, presiding; R. E. Comp. Ira Berry, Grand Secretary.

Eighteen Chapters were represented. The M. E. Grand High Priest delivered his Annual Address. He commenced by making mention of those who had during the past year been gathered to that country from whose bourne no traveller returns, among whom were M. E. P. G. H. P., J. C. Humphreys; P. G. H. P. James C. Churchill, and Companion Joseph Covell. The last named died at Prince Edward Island, having been appointed U. S. Consul for that Island a short time before his death. Royal Arch Masonry is progressing in the State of Maine; nearly all the Chapters are doing well; some not doing quite what they ought to do, owing to want of energy in officers in some cases,—in others, to want of talent on the part of members. M. E. Hiram Chase, D. G. H. Priest, made a short report on local affairs. Reports were also made by R. E. Josiah H. Drummond, Grand King, and R. E. Edward P. Burnham, Grand Scribe.

The Grand Secretary presented a statement of the financial condition of the charity fund. The charity fund consists of bank

stock and U. S. 5-20's, to the amount of $1,816.96; in addition to which there is $125.75, amount of income available for charitable purposes.

The Grand Treasurer presented his annual report, showing,—receipts, $1,871.77; disbursements, $974.15; balance, $897.62.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence was read, and comprised a summary of the masonic proceedings of twenty-three sister Bodies, including Canada. With regard to the new Constitution adopted by the Grand Chapter of Canada, the report of the committee says:—"The following provision is novel to us: 'When the Grand Lodge or any other competent authority in the Craft shall suspend or expel any brother who is a Royal Arch Mason, the Grand Chapter shall, immediately on said suspension or expulsion, and the circumstances relating thereto being communicated to it by the Grand Z., proceed to consider and decide whether such companion shall be suspended or expelled from his Arch Masonic functions for the period whilst such Craft suspension or expulsion continues in force. But he shall not, neither shall any companion under any circumstances, be suspended or expelled until he shall have been summoned to show cause why such sentence should not be recorded and enforced, and afforded every opportunity of defending himself, either in Grand Chapter as aforesaid, or before other duly constituted authority.'" The committee consider that this is an excellent rule, that every companion ought to have notice to show cause, &c., before he is declared expelled.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—M. E. Josiah H. Drummond, Grand High Priest; R. E. Ira Berry, Grand Secretary.

MARYLAND AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

A special Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held at Central Masonic Hall, corner D and 9th Streets, Washington, on Monday, October 14th, 1866—M. E. Companion James G. Smith, G. D. P., presiding; R. E. Companion N. B. Clarke, Grand Secretary, *pro tem.*

The Grand Chapter having been opened in ample form, the

Grand High Priest announced the sudden accidental death of R. E. Companion W. J. Parkhurst, Grand King of the Grand Chapter, and stated that he had called the Grand Chapter together for the purpose of paying a last tribute of respect to his memory. The Grand Chapter formed in procession and escorted the remains of the deceased to their last resting place in Glenwood Cemetery, where the Masonic ceremonies were conducted by the R. W. Deputy Grand Master R. B. Donaldson, and Sirs Edward Baldwin and J. J. Ashley, Knights Templar.

The Annual Convocation was held on the 12th of November, 1866, in Baltimore, M. E. Companion J. G. Smith, G. H. P., presiding, R. E. Companion W. M. Smith, Grand Secretary. Ten out of eleven Chapters being represented, the Grand Chapter was opened in ample form.

The M. E. G. H. Priest delivered his annual address, in which he made mention of the lamented death of R. E. Companion W. G. Parkhurst, Grand King, Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, Grand King of the Grand Chapter, Captain General of Columbia Commandery, W. M. of Harmony Lodge No. 17; P. H. P. and Treasurer of Washington Chapter No. 16, and two years Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. In the course of his address, the M. E. G. H. P. made mention of the fact that he had been informed by the H. P. of Washington Chapter No. 16, that a petition had been undoubtedly received and referred to a committee of the Chapter, from a brother who was physically disabled from receiving the degree, though morally well qualified, and that upon being asked whether there was no way in which a good brother might be saved the mortification of being rejected, he (the G. H. P.) issued his dispensation, allowing the withdrawal of the petition. Subsequently it was claimed that the brother, not having been rejected, could apply for admittance to another Chapter. The G. H. P. decided, however, that the dispensation, allowing the withdrawal of the petition for the reasons stated, viz., physical disability, was a permanent barrier to his ever receiving his degrees in that jurisdiction, and he recommended the adoption of a resolution that would more

clearly settle the question for the guidance of the Royal Craft in future.

The Committee on Correspondence made their report, showing that they had held communication with twenty sister Bodies including Canada. In reference to the address of M. E. T. Douglas Harington, the Committee say:—"We feel gratified that our neighbors across the line have so high an appreciation of their brothers in the States, and beg sincerely to reciprocate their fraternal gratulations, and heartily thank our Companions of Canada, whose sympathies have been so warmly enlisted in our behalf during the dark days of our trials and afflictions, and trust that there may be nothing in the future to mar these happy relations or sunder the ties that unite us so closely together."

The report of the Grand Treasurer showed receipts—$1,673.31; disbursements, $819.73; balance in hand, $853.58.

M.E. Comp. J. G. Smith was re-elected Grand High Priest, and R. E. Comp. W. M. Smith was elected Grand Secretary.

MICHIGAN.

The Seventeenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of this State was held at Detroit on the 8th, 9th and 10th of January, 1866. M. E. Ebenezer Sprague, G. H. P.; R. E., J. Eastman Johnson, Grand Secretary. Thirty-eight Chapters were represented.

The M. E. G. H. P. delivered his annual address, in which he congratulated the companions on the continuance of national peace and prosperity, after which he gave a brief account of his official acts during the past year.

He mentioned that at the Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, held in the city of Chicago in 1859, a committee was appointed to arrange a system of lectures on work, and so establish a uniform system throughout the United States. No report, however, had as yet been presented, and it was useless to hope for a uniform system of work from that source. The G. H. P. therefore recommended in view of this, that in subordinate Chapters, there should be a strict conformity

with the lectures and work as now taught in that jurisdiction, so that no sound of discord might be heard to mar the harmony existing among the workmen.

The Grand Secretary reported several matters of local interest, after which the Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented their report, which included communications with nineteen sister Bodies, including Canada.

The report of the Grand Treasurer showed: receipts, $3389.26; disbursements, $1872.59; balance in hand, $1516.67.

M. E. A. Bernard Cudworth was elected G. H. P., and R. E. J. E. Johnson was re-elected Grand Secretary.

On the 7th January, A. D. 1867, the Eighteenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Michigan was held at the new Masonic Temple, in the city of Adrian,—M. E. A. B. Cudworth, G. H. P., presiding; R. E. J. E. Johnson, Grand Secretary. 44 Chapters were represented.

The M. E. G. H. P. in his address, alluded to the prosperity which had attended Masonry in the State of Michigan; and in making mention of the new and beautiful Hall which they were assembled to consecrate, he called upon the Companions to devote that altar and throne to the service of Jehovah, and to let its beautiful and lofty arches ever resound with His praise.

Among those who had passed from earthly companionship during the year, the G. H. P. recalled the names of Lewis Cass and Levi Cook, both at the time of their death P. G. M's of the State of Michigan. In conclusion, the G. H. P. congratulated the Royal Craft on its happy condition.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented their report, which showed that they had held communication with twenty-two Grand Chapters, including Canada.

The Grand Treasurer's account showed: receipts, $4,162.79; disbursements, $2,801.10; balance on hand, $1,361.69.

M. E. John P. Fiske was elected G. H. P., and R. E. R. W. Landor was elected Grand Secretary.

MISSISSIPPI.

The Nineteenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Mississippi, was held at the Masonic Hall in the city of Jackson, on January 17th, 18th, and 19th, 1867.

M. E. J. O. Lusher, Grand Scribe, acted as G. H. Priest on the occasion, and presided over the convocation; R. E. Oscar T. Keeler, Grand Secretary. Fifty-five Chapters were represented.

The address of the Grand High Priest, W. S. Patton, was read. From it we make the following extract:

"Our Order teaches the lesson to bear each other's burden, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and minister to the wants of the needy and the afflicted; to comfort as far as possible the weary pilgrim that is journeying with us over the rough and rugged paths of life toward the haven of rest. If we as true and faithful Companions perform all these duties, when our labor in this life shall end, we may expect to hear from the Grand High Priest above, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter within the veil, with all worthy Companions, in the fadeless beauties of the sanctuary above." The tempest of war within our borders is now still, the clear heavens are over us again, and the genius of Masonry is welcomed throughout the land. Our ancient Order, in well-remembered accents, speaks to us again, and bids us not despair of the fulfilment of her early promise, nor of the final success of her hallowed mission.

Your assemblage here at this Annual Convocation is a confession of our faith that Freemasonry has yet a mission, an altar, and a priesthood, in this world, and that our own loved country is to demonstrate this truth in a manner worthy of the mystic power on earth.

There is an inexpressible charm in the word Companion or Brother that dispels all formality, where hand hurriedly meets hand, while the warm hearts respond as though it was but the renewing of acquaintance of former days. It is this vitalizing principle that renders it so desirable to meet in Grand Council to repledge ourselves for the proper discharge of all obligations.

May these our principles continue to stand forth in bold relief, to guide the weary sojourner in the celestial road to the temple of happiness."

The report of the Grand Treasurer showed, receipts, $4,830.50; disbursements, $2,178.63; balance on hand, in United States Currency, $2,651.87.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence made their report which showed that they had held communication with fifteen Grand Chapters—including Canada.

Royal Arch Masonry appears to be in a flourishing condition in the State of Mississippi, in spite of the effects of war and civil disturbance.

M. E. Comp. W. D. Ferris was elected G. H. P., and R. E. Comp. Oscar T. Keeler, Grand Secretary.

NEW JERSEY.

The Tenth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held in the Masonic Hall, Trenton, on the 12th September, 1866 —M. E. Comp. J. C. G. Robertson, G. H. P., presiding, and R. E. Comp. J. Woolverton, Grand Secretary.

After prayer, by the Grand Chaplain, a very beautiful and appropriate ode was sung—a practice which might be followed with good effect at all Grand and Subordinate Convocations. Representatives were in attendance from fourteen Chapters, out of sixteen on the roll, including two U. D. The returns from the whole show the following figures:—Exalted, 205; withdrawn, 48; dropped, 12; suspended, 7; died, 15; total number, 773. Receipts, $946.80; expenses, $579.14; in hand, $367.66.

A carefully prepared and impressive address was delivered by the G. H. P., whose opinions and suggestions are replete with valuable lore to the studious Mason. After reverently thanking the Most High for past and present blessings, he reports official acts performed and decisions given, suggesting that they be printed separately for reference, at the end of the proceedings; and condemns regular rotation in office, as tending to produce "invidious inuendoes, slanders innumerable, and

other evils of a kindred kind, in the unseemly scramble for honor and position." This evil, he says, "prevails to so alarming an extent, that its bad influence must be controlled or nipped in the bud at once." He also warns the Companions against another prevalent evil—"the great struggle made to add to numbers, regardless of quality and enduring principle." The remainder of the address is congratulatory to subordinate officers for proficiency in work, thanks for kindness shown on visitations, and other matters of purely local interest. At the close of the Convocation, a resolution was passed, unanimously thanking the G. H. P. for his able and courteous administration of affairs, and $50 voted to procure him a suitable jewel in acknowledgment thereof.

The G. K. says in his report, that "Royal Arch Masonry is in a very healthy and flourishing condition, although the work witnessed was nothing to boast of." He suggests "that all officers hereafter elected use their utmost endeavors to perfect themselves in the work of our beautiful degrees," to which we add our hearty Amen.

Of the decisions given, we quote the following :—A candidate duly elected is entitled to all Chapter degrees, if no charges are preferred; and the H. P. is bound to confer the degrees, except charges are laid. Charges must be made at a regular Convocation, and be in writing. Any trial set aside for irregularity, can be regularly resumed. Masonic processions are illegal, except for Masonic purposes.

A person named N. J. Hackney, from Mississippi, having been reported as unworthy the confidence and fellowship of all Royal Arch Masons, it was ordered,—"that said Hackney do not receive either aid or countenance, in any form whatever, from any companion in this jurisdiction."

Comp. Thos. J. Corson presented a very able report on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of 28 sister Grand Bodies—including Canada for 1865—in a manner highly flattering to the writer, and creditable to the State whence he hails. But while thus complimenting our Companion in a general way, we must decidedly repel his opening inuendo, that

Canada is a land where "Fenians flourish, and raids are in fashion," because the assertion has no foundation in fact. Doubtless the reviewer intended this allusion to pass for wit; but if so, we assure him that there is too much solemnity associated with Fenianism and raids in Canada, to permit any witticism on so serious a subject to pass with impunity. The premature graves filled by several Companions and Brethren, who gloriously fell in repelling the outrage perpetrated on Canada by American "roughs" in 1866, are too sacred to admit of levity; and even though no offence was intended in the reference--which we candidly believe—still we feel indignant at the imputed "fashion" of "Fenianism and raids" in our midst, and strongly repudiate the mere mention of such machinations in connection with our Dominion. Comp. Corson only requires to know his Canadian neighbours better to form a higher opinion of them.

M. E. Comp. Israel Baldwin was elected G. H. P., and R. E. Comp. John Woolverton, Grand Secretary.

NEW YORK.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of New York, convened in Temple Chapter Hall, in Albany, on the 5th of February, A. D. 1867, M. E. Horace S. Taylor, Grand High Priest, presiding; R. E. John O. Cole, Grand Secretary. 124 Chapters were represented, and the Grand Chapter being opened in ample form, the M. E. G. H. P. addressed the Grand Chapter congratulating the companions on the unexampled prosperity of Royal Arch Masonry, and referring to the good effects which he believed the growth of Masonry would have upon the community at large.

During the year he had granted dispensations for seven new Chapters. Among the decisions which he made was the following:

A Master Mason who has lost an arm or leg cannot receive the Chapter degrees. In reference to which he says;

"There is nothing novel in this decision. It has been so de-

cided by all my predecessors who have had occasion to consider the question, and by the Grand Chapter. But very many of our gallant soldiers, who are Master Masons, have returned from the service of their country maimed and crippled, and thus incapacitated from proceeding further in the sublime researches of Masonry. And one of the most disagreeable duties which my office has obliged me to perform during the past year, has been to withhold my consent to the applications of High Priests to confer the Chapter degrees upon Master Masons thus situated. And I have thought proper to notice the subject here, that such applicants may learn that nothing less than an unsurmountable obstacle, founded upon the nature of the degrees themselves and the principles of Royal Arch Masonry, would induce us to close our doors against those whom we would so much delight to honor."

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence reported. Their report shows that they had communicated with 22 sister bodies including Canada.

The following officers were elected : M. E. Comp. Seymour H. Stone, Grand High Priest. R. E. Comp. Christopher G. Fox, Grand Secretary.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The Eighteenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of North Carolina, was held in St. John's Hall, Wilmington, N. C., on June 4th, 1866,—M. E. Comp. Geo. B. Waterhouse, G. H. P., presiding ; R. E. Comp. T. B. Carr, Grand Secretary. Seventeen Chapters were represented, six of which were under dispensation.

The G. H. P., in his address to the Grand Chapter, congratulated the companions on the prosperity which had attended Royal Arch Masonry during the past four years, but regretted that some of the work done had not been so thorough as it might have been. It was better to do less work and do it well, than to aim at doing so much. There were too many who had gone through the ritual of the Royal Arch degrees who would not now stand the examination of an Entered Apprentice. The G. H. P. recommended the Grand Chapter to take such action as would

prevent a subordinate Chapter from conferring degrees upon any brother who was unable to stand a good examination as a master mason. During the year the G. H. P. had issued Dispensations for four new Chapters.

Comp. Martin, for the Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented a report embracing an epitome of the proceedings of twenty-two Grand Bodies *not* including Canada.

The following preamble and resolution was adopted: "Whereas, several of the subordinate Chapters in the eastern portion of this Grand Jurisdiction have had their buildings and furniture destroyed, and their organization broken up during the late war, and the members thereof scattered; therefore, resolved that any subordinate Chapter, in this Grand Jurisdiction, may upon the application for membership, of any of the late members of a dormant Chapter, upon the best evidence, the petitioner may be able to produce of his late membership in such dormant Chapter, receive and act upon such petition, without requiring the production of a regular demit."

Similar resolutions have been passed in several of the Grand Chapters in Southern States.

The report of the Grand Treasurer showed receipts,—Gold, $30 00; Silver, $95 86; Currency, $262 32; disbursements,—Gold, $10 00; Silver, $30 00; Currency, $110 00; balance in hand, in Gold, $20 00; Silver, $65 86; Currency, $152 32, making in the aggregate the sum of $238 18.

The following officers were elected:—M. E. Comp. Alfred Marten, G. H. P.; R. E. Comp. T. B. Carr, Grand Secretary.

OHIO.

The Fifteenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, of the State of Ohio, was held at Toledo, October 11th, A. D., 1866. M. E. Comp. George Rex, G. H. P.; R. E. Comp. John D. Caldwell, Grand Secretary. Ninety-three Chapters were represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered his annual address in which

he gave a full and concise statement of all his official acts during the year. We make the following extract from his address in reference to honorary membership :—

"Permit me also to direct your attention to a subject about which some provision or regulation should be made. There are, in this State, a large number of members of the Order who, from age and increasing infirmities, are prevented from attending our meetings and participating in our labors, and who still desire to retain their membership among us, but feel, that having given to the Order the labors of the best and most active period of their lives, they should be relieved from all the burdens and cares incident to membership under our present regulations. These gray-headed veterans should be cherished by us, and, if possible, relieved of every care in their declining years. There was a time in the history of the Order in this State, when it was supposed that a Chapter had the power of conferring the distinction of honorary membership on its own members, and thus relieve them of the ordinary labors of the Chapter, and the payment of dues, they retaining all the rights, benefits and privileges of members in good standing in such Chapter; but since the adoption, by the Grand Lodge of this State, of a different rule on this subject, it is supposed that the right of a Chapter to confer this distinction on its own members no longer obtains. I would therefore recommend the adoption of a rule, giving to subordinate Chapters the right to confer the distinction of honorary membership on their own members, and as incident to the distinction thus conferred, the Companion thus honored shall be relieved of the ordinary labors of the Chapter and the payment of dues, and shall be entitled to all the rights, benefits and privileges of a member of such Chapter and of the Order at large."

The Grand Treasurer submitted his annual financial statement as follows :—Receipts, $6,678 92; disbursements, $4,420 81; balance $4,248 11.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence made their report, giving an epitome of the proceedings of twenty-one Grand Chapters, *not* including Canada. They say that they are happy

to report that Royal Arch Masonry in the United States is in a highly prosperous condition, and that from every quarter is heard the welcome sound, that "all is well." They express particular gratification in the receipt of proceedings from some of the Grand Chapters of Southern States, and welcome them with true fraternal greeting, "hoping that the Royal Arch Masons throughout the land will in another year be linked together by the silver chain of brotherly love." We in Canada may add our hearty "Amen" to the hope herein expressed by our brethren of the Grand Chapter of Ohio.

M. E. Comp. George Rex was elected M. E. G. H. P. for the ensuing year; R. E. Comp. John D. Caldwell being re-elected Grand Secretary.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

For the first time since 1860, we are in receipt of the transactions of this Grand Chapter, the last Convocation of which was held in the Masonic Hall, Charleston, on the 12th February, 1867. M. E. Comp. A. G. Mackey, G. H. P., presiding; and R. E. Comp. E. Thayer, Grand Secretary. The proceedings of 1862 and 1866 are also given in the same pamphlet, but it is unnecessary to do more at this late date than note their reception. In the years 1863-4-5 no Convocations were held, owing to the civil war then prevailing. At the last Convocation representatives were present with returns from 18 subordinates, out of 31 Chapters on the roll. No returns were received from 12 Chapters, and one was reported dormant. The only statistics given were the following: exalted, 96; withdrawn, 12; deaths, 8; total members of 18 Chapters, 541. Receipts, $436.75; expended, $438.00, showing expenses to exceed income by $1.25, besides other liabilities.

The Grand High Priest in his eloquent address congratulated his Companions on the return of that constitutional period which brought them once more together, but regretted that he had no flattering report to make on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the State. He says, "the long continued strife in our land pressed heavily on the condition of our Chapters,

almost all of which during the war had been suspended, and they have not yet returned to labor as I had hoped they would have done upon the restoration of peace." He also informed them of his determination to retire from office, after an official connection of twenty years, during which time the subordinate Chapters in the jurisdiction had increased from *three* to *thirty-one*. When it is remembered that Comp. Mackey is the father of Royal Arch Masonry in South Carolina, having continuously presided over the Grand Chapter for twelve years, and that no Companion in America has labored more zealously or disinterestedly to make Masonry respected throughout the world; it may well be conceived that this announcement was received with unfeigned regret by the Companions assembled, who unanimously resolved before separating to present their retiring chief with some substantial memento of their regard and appreciation of services rendered that can never be forgotten.

A merited tribute of respect is paid to the memory of R. E. Comp. D. Ramsay, Representative of the Grand Chapter of Scotland, who died from wounds received at Fort Wagner in July, 1863. The deceased Companion was for several years an able contributor to the leading Masonic periodicals of the day, and, in his learned and eloquent essays, always brought to bear clear-sighted ability and profound research in discussing the subjects descanted upon. His works will therefore secure for him a lasting place in the remembrance of all co-laborers in the vineyard of Masonic literature.

Amongst several amendments to the Constitution, this Grand Chapter enacts that any R. A. Mason not affiliated with a Symbolic Lodge for more than twelve months, shall not be allowed to hold communication with any Chapter, and if a member of one, shall forfeit his membership.

In calling off from labor to refreshment in this Grand Chapter, it appears to be customary for Companions to move a resolution to that effect, fixing the time for re-assembling; thus infringing upon what correct usage establishes as an undoubted prerogative of the G. H. P., whose sole right it is to exercise his will and pleasure in such matters.

A number of Chapters whose warrants were destroyed during the civil war, were ordered new ones *free*, and the dues of several in arrears were remitted, to enable them to resume work under the most favorable auspices. A levy was also ordered, to liquidate the accumulated indebtedness of the Grand Chapter for several years.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence gives an able review of the proceedings of fourteen Grand Chapters—Canada not among the number. So highly was the report appreciated, that it was resolved to present Comp. Bruns, the chairman, with a High Priest's Jewel, as a testimonial for his very able and elaborate synopsis, it being the first ever prepared for this Grand Chapter. As a further mark of esteem, M. E. Comp. R. S. Bruns was elected G. H. P., and R. E. Comp. E. Thayer, Grand Secretary.

TENNESSEE.

The Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was convened in the Masonic Temple, Nashville, on the 7th Dec., 1866. M. E. Comp. John Frizzell, G. H. P., presiding, and R. E. Comp. Charles A. Fuller, Grand Secretary. Forty Chapters were represented out of 64 on the roll, and 7 new ones were organized under dispensation. No statistics are given to show what work has been done by these Chapters or what their total strength. Receipts, $3,526 ; disbursements, $318.75 ; in Treasurer's hands, $3,144.49 ; besides $161 retained by Grand Secretary to cover contingencies.

The address of the G. H. P. is brief but business-like. He refers in grateful terms to the favorable circumstances under which they are assembled, being free from the dangers of cholera, to which they would have been exposed had he not exercised his prerogative and postponed the Annual Convocation till the epidemic subsided. He also states that the members of the Masonic institution had been comparatively free from the ravages of the disease, and asks—" May not this be regarded as an evidence of the practical benefits of an adherence to that cardinal virtue which is a restraint upon our passions, rendering

our bodies tame and governable ?" We do not exactly comprehend to what special cardinal virtue the G. H. P. here alludes, unless it be temperance ; but the tenets of our Order are so full of health-giving virtues, that he is perfectly correct in assuming a strict compliance with them to prove beneficial to the Craft. He also refers to the fact that peace and harmony prevail within the Chapters of his jurisdiction, and represents the Order as being in a highly flourishing condition.

The Grand Chapters of Alabama, Mississippi, Kentucky, and Virginia, having violated the territorial jurisdiction of Tennessee, by improperly exalting candidates residing within its bounds, it was ordered that they be communicated with, and all work so done was declared clandestine, unless afterwards healed and the fees paid afresh.

Future Annual Convocations are to be held at Nashville, immediately after the close of Grand Lodge.

No substitutes will be again permitted by this Grand Chapter, a resolution to that effect having been passed unanimously.

A resolution was passed voting $50 to purchase books for the Grand Chapter Library ; and the Grand Secretary was ordered to procure parchment certificates of office for all Grand Officers.

An elaborate report on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of 23 Grand Chapters, was presented by the Grand Secretary. Canada is one of those fraternally reviewed, and a quotation is also given from the address of our M. E. Grand Z., at the Convocation held at St. Catharines in 1866. The chairman of the committee concludes his well written report with the following remarks :—" We here rest from our labors and submit the results to the inspection of our Companions. At no time in the history of the Royal Craft has so great a degree of prosperity exhibited itself in almost every jurisdiction." His recommendation to the Companions to guard the entrance to the Temple with watchful care, should be zealously acted upon.

M. E. Comp. Jonathan S. Dawson was elected G. H. P. ; and R. E. Comp. Charles A. Fuller, Grand Secretary.

VIRGINIA.

The Sixtieth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held in the Masons' Hall, Richmond, on the 13th December, 1866. M. E. Comp. George W. Dame, G. H. P., presiding; and R. E. Comp. John Dove, Grand Secretary. 16 Chapters were represented, out of 20 in good working order, and 31 are reported either dormant or defunct; 5 new ones under dispensation were ordered warrants. The returns from the 20 show 1536 members; 2 reinstated; 55 suspended; 1 expelled; and 20 deaths. The Treasurer shows $525 in hand, and $738 due.

The G. H. P. delivered a very interesting and eloquently written address, showing an intimate acquaintance with the landmarks of our order. In the absence of more engrossing topics, he traced up the history of Royal Arch Masonry from 1740,—when the Dermott Grand Lodge made it a distinct degree under the control of subordinate Lodges,—until the beginning of the present century, "when Grand Chapters were first organized with the view of elevating the degree to a higher standard, by investing it with more form, power and dignity." That change, he contends, "however wise and needful at the time, has long since ceased to be beneficial, for it has given a very large proportion of members who cannot govern a Lodge, and do not govern their lusts, habits, or language; who cannot instruct an Apprentice in the way to the Middle Chamber, and, when tried by the Overseer's Square, are found unfit for use in the Masonic Temple, and fit only to be *hove over* amidst its rubbish. Hundreds of drones have been admitted into the hive who sought the name of Royal Arch, supposing it would give them honor; but whilst they have gained none, they have lowered the name and detracted much from the character that justly belongs to it. The standard of Masonry is entirely too low. Justice demands that it should be raised, and that a strict discipline should be enforced in reference to the unworthy who are within, and a closer scrutiny exercised toward those who shall in future knock at its portals. None should be admitted who are not worthy, on account of high moral character, zeal for the institution, and thorough knowledge of the whole Ritual of the symbolic degrees, to receive a special mark of honor. We may

not be able to undo the injury done either to the name of Royal Arch or to Symbolic Masonry, yet we can do something to restore it to its former position, and make it prove an incentive to the members of Lodges to improve themselves and become more active and useful Masons. I would suggest that Grand Chapter require that the qualifications of candidates for the Capitular Degrees be such as we have reason to believe to belong to a Worshipful Master, who had, as such, served his time with honor to himself and credit to the fraternity. Such a regulation would require a candidate to have from his Lodge, on secret ballot, a clear declaration that they considered him one whose past zeal, high moral character and great Masonic proficiency entitled him to be honored by exaltation to the Most Supreme Degree of Royal Arch. In addition to which, I would require that the Council of the Chapter, in presence of the Companions, should give a thorough examination on the whole work and lectures of the three degrees of Symbolic Masonry and in Masonic law and history, and only after perfect satisfaction of his proficiency in these things, should he be recommended for exaltation. This would in a few years make the body of Royal Arch Masons one of profound intelligence, and the proper exponents of true Masonic character. The adoption of this plan might hinder for a time rapid growth; but it would make the few who are exalted vastly more valuable than countless numbers of cyphers."

The Committee to whom this valuable address was referred, reported "that it was in happy contrast with those of the G. H. P.'s of several other States, who used them chiefly for putting forth political ideas and sectional differenccs, instcad of permeating them with true Masonic principles, and disseminating that universal friendship which should be among craftsmen as expansive as the blue vault of heaven itself; bidding us cultivate a spirit of harmony, as the characteristic of a society founded on everlasting truth and universal philanthropy, and admonishing us of a proper zeal to preserve unsullied the great privilege and honor we have as Royal Arch Masons."

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented a general report on the proceedings of 23 Grand Chapters—

Canada among the number. The Royal Craft in Canada is referred to in affectionate terms, and quotations are given from the address of our M. E. G. Z. for 1866, and the report on Foreign Correspondence.

The G. H. P. and Grand Secretary were both re-elected.

WISCONSIN.

We have the reports of Two Annual Convocations of this Grand Chapter before us, being for the years 1866-7. Both were held in the Masonic Hall, Milwaukee, in February of each year. M. E. Comp. D. H. Wright, G. H. P., presided on each occasion; and R. E. Comp. W. T. Palmer, Grand Secretary. The attendance was very full at both Convocations, 26 Chapters out of 29 being represented at the former, and 31 out of 34 at the latter. Four Chapters under dispensation received warrants, a dormant one was revived, and only 1 has become defunct. The last returns from 32 Chapters are as follows:—Exalted, 392; affiliated, 28; withdrawn, 106; suspended, 12; rejected, 43; died, 13; total members, 1755. The Treasurer's receipts are given at $2,381; expenses $1,282, (of which about $1,100 was paid to representatives attending Grand Chapter); balance, $1,089.53. The Secretary has also in hand $2,634. How is it that the funds are thus divided? With us the Scribe E. merely reports monies received and sources, which he passes over to the Treasurer, whose annual statement covers all receipts and disbursements during the year. Our system certainly seems the most simple and business-like, as it shows at a glance our true financial position.

The G. H. P. delivered a well digested address, relating almost solely to local matters. Of abuses in conferring the R. A. Degree, he truly says:—"With regard to that *August Degree* that is the crowning glory of our beautiful temple, I trust the members of this Grand Chapter will see the impropriety of desecrating its sublime lessons in such a manner as to render it little less than a farce, and the impressions intended to be made entirely lost. In Masonry every lesson taught is calculated to make man better and purer, to inspire him with higher and holier thoughts and aspirations; to lead him to the

Great Fountain of truth; and while receiving those lessons, so dear to the heart of every intelligent member of the Craft, whatever tends to draw his thoughts from the impression intended to be conveyed, is an innovation and is calculated to debase rather than exalt, and should receive general condemnation." And of the indiscriminate multiplication of Companions, he adds the following wholesome counsel:—"Where so much material is brought up, some that is unworthy must necessarily find its way into the walls of the building, instead of being rejected and thrown among the rubbish. Masonry is becoming too common. This is a fast age. Men become fanatic in everything—in politics, in religion, and even in Masonry! Let us then guard well the outer court of the Tabernacle. See that no improper *material* enter into and become a part of the structure; but may all the parts be so nicely adjusted, that we may form a perfect and complete whole."

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence review the proceedings of 21 Grand Chapters—Canada for 1866 among the number. The report is very elaborate, well written, and occupies 32 pages. It is a highly instructive privilege to read the able report of Comp. J. P. Cottrill, who wields a vigorous, intelligent pen, and discusses the various topics open to controversy with commendable judgment and prudence. He quotes copiously from our proceedings, and thus refers to them:—"Comp. Jas. Seymour presented a full and admirably written report on Foreign Correspondence, covering 48 pages. It is so fraternal and friendly in tone and spirit, so happy in its selection of subjects, and so accurate and discriminating in its discussion of them, that we regret that we cannot quote from it at much greater length than our space permits. He reviews the proceedings of 23 Grand Chapters, ours for 1865 included, together with those of the G. Grand Chapter of the United States for 1865. Ours receives courteous and fraternal notice." While reciprocating Comp. Cottrill's friendly opinions, we will not at present resume discussion on the General Grand Chapter question, to which he alludes at some length, our views not having undergone any material change by his remarks. But we can assure him that the high compliment paid in the follow-

ing paragraph, is duly appreciated by the Grand Chapter of Canada, whose officers always esteem it a real pleasure to have the approbation of distinguished Companions in other jurisdictions on their despatch and accuracy in conducting their affairs: "In closing the review of this Grand Chapter, we cannot but especially commend the promptness shown in the prosecution of all the reports, and the precision displayed in performing them, enabling it to properly transact and finish its business in a single day."

Among the resolutions adopted by this Grand Chapter, was one declaring all army-made Companions to be clandestine, until subsequently healed in a regular Chapter. Another orders that no Chapter or Companion shall hold Masonic intercourse with any Companion who continues unaffiliated as a Master Mason, over one year. And another appropriates $100 towards procuring a dwelling for the widow of deceased Comp. Louis, who in his lifetime was noted for generosity to all objects of Masonic benevolence.

The G. H. P. and Grand Secretary were both re-elected.

CONCLUSION.

Your Committee have now arrived at the conclusion of their labors, which have not only been eminently instructive but highly profitable. They have learned the measure of success that has attended the efforts of their co-workers in the vineyard of Masonry in other jurisdictions on the American Continent—a success the more remarkable, when the troubles from which our neighbors have lately emerged are taken into account—and they have culled from their records such extracts as, in their opinion, will prove of substantial value to the Canadian Craft. These show that harmonious prosperity everywhere prevails, and that Vigilance and Circumspection stand as guardian angels at the portals of our venerated Temple, to prevent unworthy intrusion into our sacred mysteries. Thus watched over and guided, we may well rejoice at the bright prospects before the Royal Craft of largely increased numbers, and of more extended

usefulness to the human family. Let us hope that the impressive warnings uttered by several Grand High Priests against permitting defective *material* to be built up, and slovenly work to be done in subordinate Chapters, will not be lost upon those for whom they are intended; as careful attention to such important interests are certain to exert a salutary influence, whilst neglect cannot but do much to injure Masonry in the eyes of the jealous and uncharitable.

But the most painful part of our duty yet remains to be performed, and that is, to state our exceeding regret, that with the present report we will terminate our connexion with the Committee on Foreign Correspondence—an alternative the more embarassing from the abiding friendships formed with the ablest minds of the Craft while acting in that capacity. However, impaired health and business claims demand this sacrifice at our hands, and these being paramount considerations, we must comply. May our humble endeavors to edify and instruct, to review fairly and criticise dispassionately, during the past four years, be more efficiently discharged by our successors, and may their efforts ever tend to cultivate those feelings of *Brotherly Love, Relief* and *Truth*, without which Masonry would be robbed of three of its brightest and most ennobling virtues.

All which is fraternally submitted,

JAMES SEYMOUR,

Chairman Com. Foreign Correspondence.

COMMITTEE ROOM, GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA,
OTTAWA, AUGUST 13th, 1867.

ADDENDA.

On motion, it was resolved that the next Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter be held at the City of Montreal.

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER,

1867–8.

M.	E.	Comp.	T. Douglas Harington,	Grand Z.	Grand Council.
R.	"	"	David Curtis,	" H.	Grand Council.
"	"	"	James Seymour,	" J.	Grand Council.
"	"	"	Thomas Bird Harris,	"	Scribe E.
"	"	"	A. G. Smyth,	"	" N.
"	"	"	A. T. Houel,	"	Principal Sojourner.
"	"	"	Isaac H. Stearns,	"	Treasurer.
"	"	"	John S. Bowen,	"	Registrar.
V.	"	"	Henry Robertson,	"	First As't Sojourner.
"	"	"	Revd Charles Forest,	"	Second " "
"	"	"	William Reid,	"	Sword Bearer.
"	"	"	Henry J. Pratten,	"	Standard Bearer.
"	"	"	M. J. May,	"	Dir. of Ceremonies.
"	"	"	Geo. EnEarl,	"	Organist.
"	"	"	Stanislaus H. Blondheim,	"	Pursuivant.
"	"	"	Peter Begg,	"	Stewards.
"	"	"	S. G. Dolson,	"	Stewards.
"	"	"	William Johnson,	"	Stewards.
"	"	"	William Ellis,	"	Stewards.
		"	Thomas Holywell,	"	Janitor.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS OF DISTRICTS.

R.	E.	Comp.	Charles Kahn	*London*	*District.*
"	"	"	C. L. Beard	*Wilson*	"
"	"	"	John W. Murton	*Hamilton*	"
"	"	"	James Adams	*Toronto*	"
"	"	"	H. W. Delany	*Pr. Edward*	"
"	"	"	Alex. S. Kirkpatrick	*Central*	"
"	"	"	Thos. Milton	*Montreal*	"
"	"	"	H. L. Robinson	*East'n Town'ps*	"
"	"	"	Thomas Lambert	*Quebec*	"

LIST OF GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS,

WITH THE

NAMES AND RESIDENCES OF THEIR SECRETARIES.

England	Wm. Gray Clarke	London.
Scotland	L. Mackersey	Edinburgh.
Ireland	Hon. Geo. Handcock	Dublin.
Alabama	Daniel Sayre	Montgomery.
Arkansas	W. D. Blocker	Little Rock.
California	L. C. Owen	San Francisco.
Connecticut	John W. Paul	Waterbury.
Florida	Hugh A. Corley	Tallahasee.
Georgia	B. B. Russel	Augusta.
Indiana	William Hacker	Indianapolis.
Illinois	H. G. Reynolds	Springfield.
Iowa	W. B. Langridge	Muscatine.
Kansas	E. T. Carr	Leavenworth.
Kentucky	Philip Swiggert	Frankfort.
Louisiana	Jas. C. Batchelor	New Orleans.
Maine	Ira Berry	Portland.
Maryland and D. of C.	William A. Wentz	Baltimore.
Massachusetts	Thomas Waterman	Boston.
Michigan	J. Eastman Johnson.	Centreville.
Minnesota	A. T. C. Pierson	St. Paul.
Mississippi	Oscar T. Keeler	Columbus.
Missouri	Geo. F. Gouley	St. Louis.
Nebraska	J. N. Wise	Plattsmouth.
New Hampshire	Horace Chase	Hopkinton.
New York	Christopher G. Fox.	Buffalo.
New Jersey	J. Woolverton	Trenton.
North Carolina	Thomas B. Carr	Wilmington.
Ohio	John D. Cadwell	Cincinatti.
Oregon	Chas M. Cartwright.	Salem.
Pennsylvania	John Thompson	Philadelphia.
Rhode Island	Samuel B. Swan	Providence.
South Carolina	E. Thayer	Charleston.
Tennessee	C. A. Fuller	Nashville.
Texas	Robt. Brewster	Houston.
Vermont	John B. Hollenbeck.	Burlington.
Virginia	John Dove	Richmond.
Wisconsin	W. T. Palmer	Milwaukee.

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